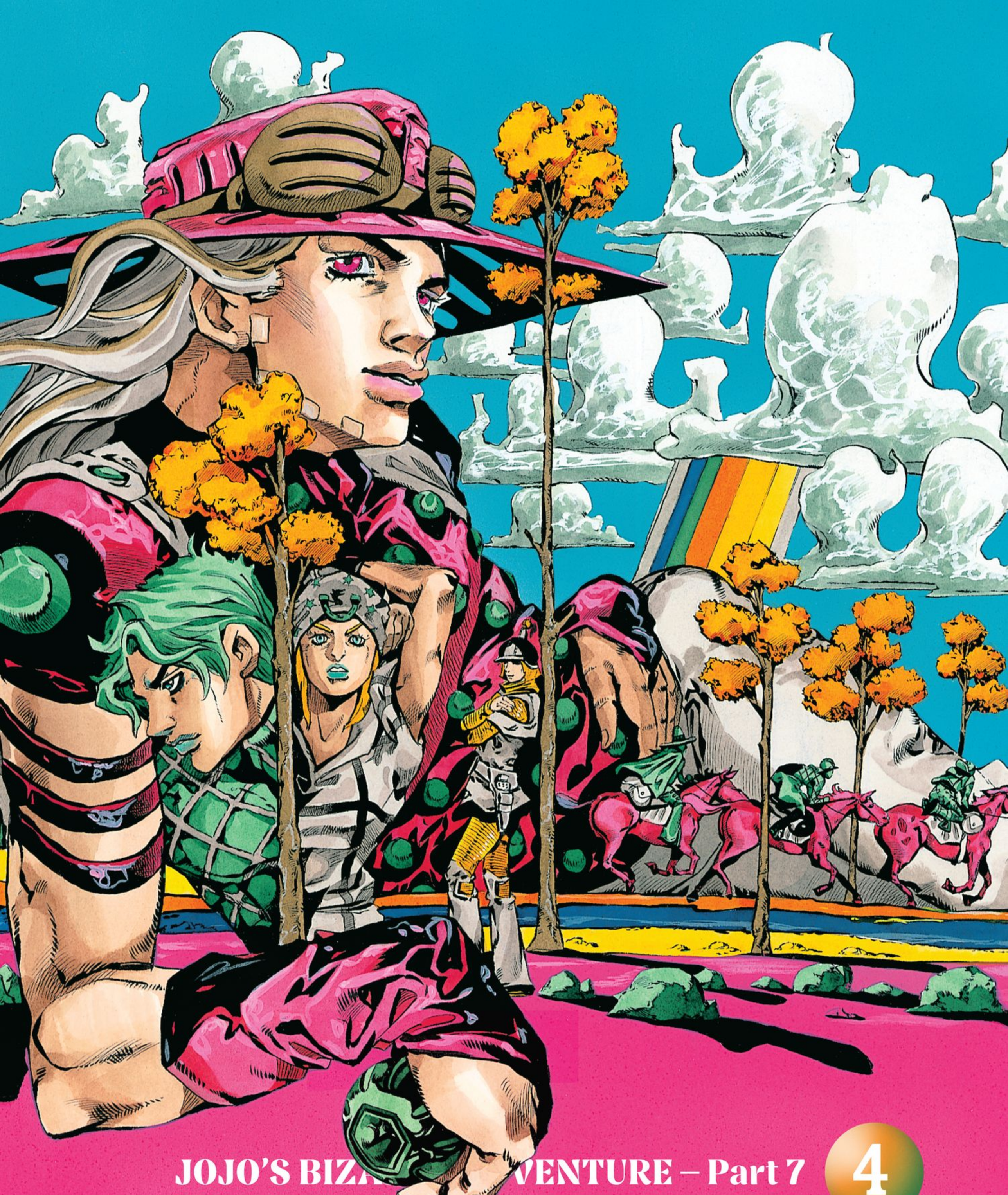

JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE – Part 7

4

STEEL BALL RUN

by Hirohiko Araki

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STEEL BALL RUN

4

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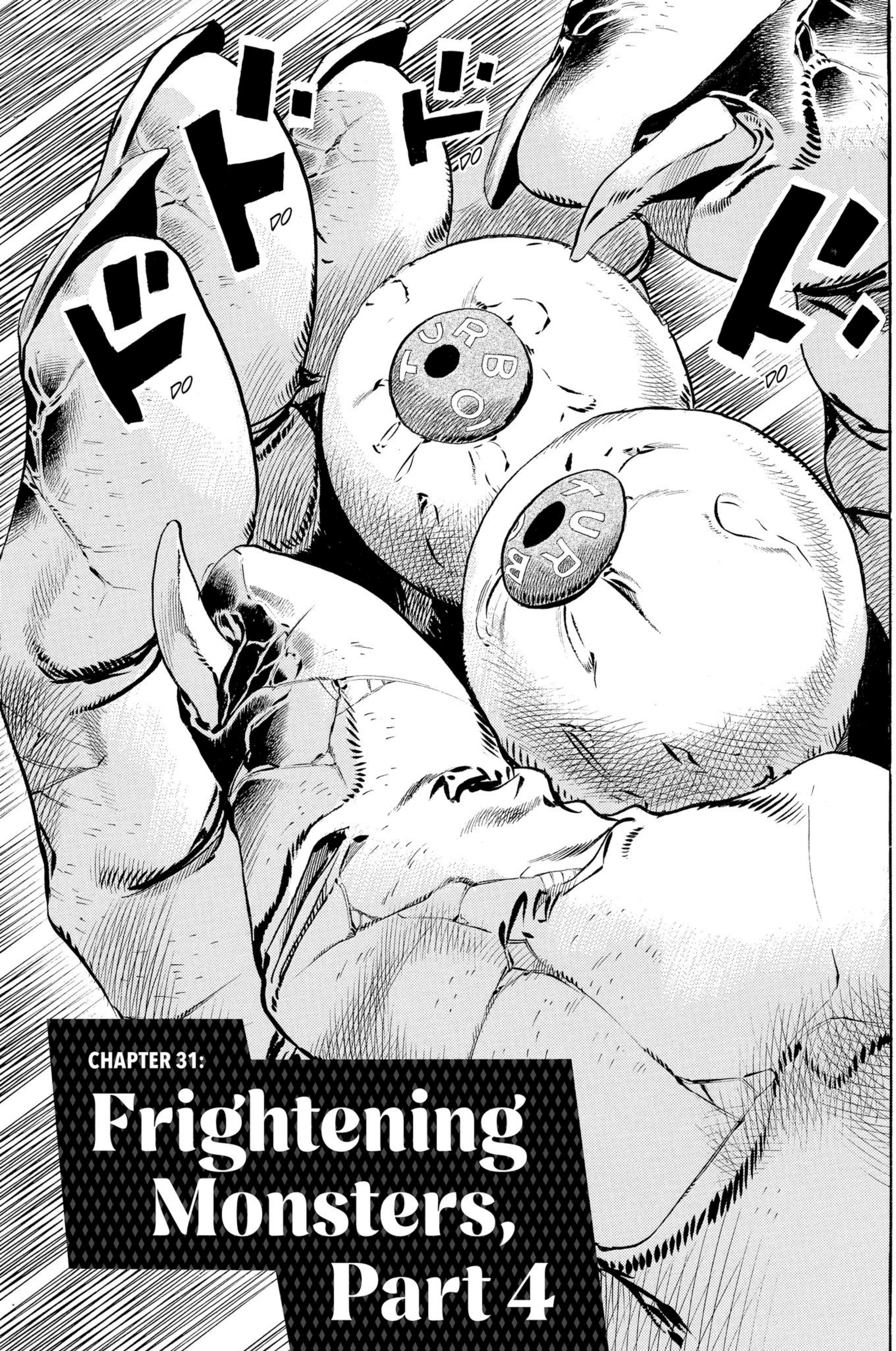


CHAPTER 31:

Frightening Monsters, Part 4

...

...

ドドド

ド
ドド
ドド
!
BŌ
BŌ...
TUR...
TURRR
RRR...
WHAT IS
THAT...?!
W...

IT'S JUST LIKE BEFORE. THE SAME AS THE ARM!

IT'S WHISPERING TO HIM.

THE STAND IS SPEAKING TO DIO!

TUR... TURRR RRR...

BŌ BŌ...

ドドド

GLEAM

GLEAM

GLEAM

GLEAM

GLEAM

GLEAM

...AND THE STAND IS ALREADY SHOWING HIM WHERE TO GO NEXT!

TURRRRRR... T-U-R-B-Ō... BŌ.

ROAD

T-U-R...

...B-Ō.

SKSH

SKSSSH

KIYAAAANG

FWM

BANG

BANG

BANG

EAT THIS, DIO!!

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

I'LL NEVER LET YOU TAKE THE CORPSE!

HUH ?!

SKSH

SKSH

SKSH

SKSH

SKSH

DO

DO

DO

I'M TALKING TO YOU, JOHNNY JOESTAR.

YES, YOU.

HEY, JOHNNY...

ゴゴゴゴ

GWOOOOO

HAAA AAAA AAH...

AAAA AAAAA AAH!! GYRO!!

...

?!

WHAT ?!

WHAT WAS THAT?

JUST NOW, I MEAN.

DID YOU JUST LITTER?

YOU THREW YOUR *FINGER-NAILS*...

...RIGHT THERE ON THE GROUND.

YOU KNOW, THE WORLD IS NOT YOUR PERSONAL TRASH CAN FOR THINGS LIKE THAT.

THINGS LIKE YOUR NAILS, JOHNNY JOESTAR.

SUCH A FLIPPANT ACT OF LITTERING...

...PROVES THAT YOU DON'T RESPECT THE LAND.

ARE YOU REALLY THAT SPECIAL? DO YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN THE GREAT AND BOUNTIFUL MOTHER EARTH?

WSH

WHO IS THAT? HE CAME UP THE CLIFF-SIDE...

?!

WHO...

...

HAAAAH

ドドド

I KNEW TRANSFORMING YOU INTO A DINOSAUR WAS THE RIGHT DECISION. YOU'VE MADE A WONDERFUL LEADER TO THE OTHERS.

THAT WAS SOME QUICK THINKING, MAKING THE LEAP ACROSS THE RAVINE. I ADMIRE YOUR STRATEGY.

GOOD WORK, DIEGO BRANDO.

WELL, THEN!

ドドドドドド

ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. MY NAME IS FERDINAND. I AM A SCHOLAR OF GEOLOGY AND ANCIENT BIOLOGY, AND AS SUCH, YOU WILL REFER TO ME AS *DOCTOR* FERDINAND.

BUT FIRST, WHERE ARE MY MANNERS? NOT ALL OF US ARE VULGAR MEN WITH NO RESPECT FOR THE EARTH.

I'LL BE TAKING YOUR ARM TOO, JOESTAR.

I GAINED MY ABILITY TWO YEARS AGO WHILE I WAS INVESTIGATING THE *DEVIL'S PALM* IN ARIZONA.

WHMMMM

W... WHAT?

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO THE HELL IS THIS GUY?!

BUT IMAGINE MY SURPRISE WHEN YOU TWO...

...ACTUALLY WENT AND FOUND THE NEXT PART OF THE CORPSE— THESE EYES!

IN ORDER TO TRACK YOU DOWN AND RETRIEVE YOUR *LEFT ARM*, I FIRST TRANSFORMED DIEGO BRANDO INTO A DINOSAUR.

THEN, FOR GOOD MEASURE, I HAD DIO INFECT THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE.

I NAMED THE ABILITY *FRIGHTENING MONSTERS.*

YOU'RE TELLING ME *YOU'RE* THE ONE BEHIND THIS?!

YOU'VE BEEN CONTROLLING HIM THE WHOLE TIME!

IT WAS NEVER DIO'S ABILITY AT ALL...

WITH SUCH FRESHNESS, ONE CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE THESE EYES ARE FROM A CORPSE MORE THAN *1,900 YEARS OLD.*

THIS CORPSE IS TRULY REMARKABLE.

I'VE HEARD THAT THE BODY OF SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER, THE APOSTLE OF THE FAR EAST, DOES NOT DE-COMPOSE, BUT THIS...

MY HANDS ARE TREMBLING WITH EXCITE-MENT.

...

THE CORPSE IS FROM 1,900 YEARS AGO?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THIS CONTINENT HADN'T EVEN BEEN DISCOVERED YET.

THIS IS SOME-THING EVEN MORE.

DEAR ME! IN THAT CASE, PERHAPS I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.

WELL, NOT THAT IT MATTERS. AFTER ALL, YOU'LL BOTH BE DEAD IN A MOMENT.

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW *WHO* IT IS?

YOU TWO...

...WERE TRYING TO FIND THE CORPSE WITHOUT KNOWING ANYTHING ABOUT IT?

JUST NOW... WHAT DID YOU DO?

BACK UP A MOMENT, JOHNNY JOESTAR.

WERE YOU NOT LISTENING TO A WORD I SAID?

DID YOU JUST *SPIT?* WAS THAT YOU SPITTING ON THE GROUND?

PTOO!

WHAT KIND OF GEOLOGIST TURNS TO A LIFE OF TERRORISM?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN, HUH? AND FOR THAT MATTER, WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE ANYWAY?

YOU CLAIM YOU WERE IN THE DEVIL'S PALM TWO YEARS AGO? YOU KNOW, I'VE HAD A VAGUE SUSPICION FOR A WHILE NOW, BUT... ARE YOU WITH THE GOVERNMENT? IS THE WHOLE COUNTRY BEING RUN BY TERRORISTS?!

THE WORLD IS FILLED WITH INGRATES LIKE YOU.

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO RESPECT THE LAND.

THOSE WHO DEFILE THE LAND WILL BE PUNISHED ONE BY ONE!

THEY DIDN'T RESPECT THE LAND! THAT'S WHY THEY DIED OUT! THIS IS NOT AN OPINION, BUT SCIENTIFIC FACT.

DO YOU KNOW WHY THE DINOSAURS SUDDENLY WENT EXTINCT DESPITE THRIVING ALL ACROSS THE PLANET?

AND THESE PEANUT-BRAINED CREATURES WERE INCAPABLE OF COMPREHENDING THAT PROFOUND CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP!

BECAUSE THESE OAFS WERE TOO THICK-SKULLED TO UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF RESPECT!

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU?

WHY ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR THE CORPSE?

DO YOU SEEK ETERNAL LIFE? OR TO BE INVINCIBLE, PERHAPS?

IS IT SO THAT YOU CAN MAKE YOUR LEGS WALK AGAIN?

THE ONE WHO ATTAINS THE COMPLETE CORPSE SHALL INHERIT TRUE POWER AND THE ETERNAL KINGDOM!

REVERENCE IS PROSPERITY!

WHAT I SPEAK OF IS BEYOND SUCH PETTY CONCERNS.

ONCE ALL THE PARTS OF THE CORPSE ARE REASSEMBLED, IT WILL BE A RELIC REVERED BY EVERY PERSON ON THIS EARTH.

YOU'RE COMPLETELY OUT OF YOUR MIND. THERE ISN'T A *SAINT* IN THE WORLD WHO COULD GRANT SOMEONE ALL THAT.

JUST SWELL. BUT THERE'S STILL ONE PROBLEM...

WELL, I'LL BE DAMNED.

THAT'S REALLY SOMETHING.

...

...

DIO.

TAKE THE LEFT ARM FROM JOHNNY JOESTAR AND KILL HIM!

IF YOU HAD PEACEFULLY HANDED OVER THE ARM AT THE BEGINNING, I MIGHT HAVE SPARED YOUR LIFE.

YOU JUST WON'T LISTEN, WILL YOU? THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BROUGHT THIS UPON YOURSELF.

?!

HM?

...THE ARM?

OH!

IS THAT...

AND I STILL HAVE JUST ENOUGH TIME BEFORE THE TRANS-FORMATION COMPLETES AND I FALL UNDER YOUR CONTROL!

KRK KRK KRK KRK KRK KRK

...WHICH MEANS I CAN USE MY TAIL TO JUMP LIKE THIS.

THAT'S THE ARM, ALL RIGHT.

I LET IT GO...

FWOOM

STOMP

WHAM

THWACK

URK!

GYRO! YOU HAVE TO TAKE THESE!

THE CORPSE'S POWER WILL TURN YOU BACK TO NORMAL!

WISH

CLATCH

AH!

I DID IT! I CAUGHT THEM!

ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL

ROLL ROLL

NGH...

AAAH!

AND NOW IT APPEARS THAT YOU TOO ARE SLIPPING UNDER MY CONTROL... NEVERTHELESS, I'LL STILL HAVE DIO CARRY OUT MY PREVIOUS COMMAND.

DID YOU REALLY THINK YOUR TAWDRY TRICKS WOULD ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING?

YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY MY HOST OF DINOSAURS.

THESE ARE THE GREATEST PREDATORY PACK ANIMALS TO EVER ROAM THE EARTH.

THEY WILL SURPASS YOUR EVERY MOVE!

RA AA AA AA AA AA WR!

ROLL ROLL ROLL

KRK KRK KRK KRK

AAAA AAH!

KILL HIM NOW.

THEN RECOVER THE *ARM* AND THE *EYES.*

DIO.

AH!

SMAKK

...

WHY DID YOU THROW IT?

IT'S ONE OF THOSE STEEL BALLS...

?

WHAT ...?

WHRR WHRR

WHRR WHRR WHRR

サラサラ WSSH WSSH

サラサラ WSSH WSSH

STAY BACK UNTIL I GIVE YOU AN ORDER!

GYRO ZEPPELI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

GET DOWN ON THE GROUND AND DO AS I SAY!

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

GO GO GO GO

HUH?!

...IS GONE.

BUT WHERE IS IT?

COULD IT BE ...?!

GO GO GO GO

ONE OF THE EYES...

GO GO GO GO

GO

LOOK AT ME!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! CAN'T YOU HEAR ME?!

LET ME SEE YOUR FACE!

I TOLD YOU TO GET BACK!

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

ドドド

SHOW ME YOUR FACE, GYRO ZEPPELI!

SNAP
KRIK
SNAP
KRIK
KRIK
SNAP
KRIK
AAAAA
AAAAA
AAA
AHH!!
?!
...
WHAT ...?
IS THAT WHAT I THINK IT IS?!
IS THAT ...?
DOES GYRO REALLY HAVE THE EYE?!
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK

AAAA AAAA AAAA AHH!!

AAA AAA AAH!

SNAP

KZIK KZIK KZIK

SNAP

GWOOM

I SAW BOTH EYES FALL ON THE GROUND, SO WHERE IS THE OTHER ONE?!

I DE-MAND TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

WHAT'S THE MEAN-ING OF THIS?!

WHAT HAPPEN-ED?!

G... GYRO ...

JOHNNY JOESTAR! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THAT EYE?!

W... WHERE DID THE OTHER EYE GO? TELL ME, JOHNNY JOESTAR!

DID YOU GET THE EYE?!

DOOM

ガシ

I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.

THE EYES WERE ROLLING ALL ON THEIR OWN... AND IT LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THEM ROLLED STRAIGHT TO GYRO!

ZWOOM

...

CRACKL

OP

OP

WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
STARE
ギロ!!
GASP!
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
...
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR
WHRR

SHIMMER

!

SPLURCH

VWOOOOM

ドゴゴゴゴ

AAA
AAA
UGH!

IT WENT INSIDE YOUR EYE!

GYRO! YOUR EYE!

I'VE NEVER SEEN SO CLEARLY IN MY LIFE!

WHAT HAPPENED TO MY EYE?!

WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?!

GWSH

PART OF THE CORPSE WENT INTO YOUR EYE!

IT'S LIKE THE BLOOD SPRAY IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME. I CAN EVEN SEE THE SHARDS OF BROKEN TEETH!

THIS ISN'T A TECHNIQUE. IT MUST BE SOME KIND OF *ABILITY*...

AN ABILITY THAT JUST MAJORLY SOUPED UP MY STEEL BALLS!

JWM

SKSH

SKSH

SKSH

OH MAN, THIS IS CRAZY! I CAN SEE EVERY-THING CLEAR AS DAY!

WSH

FORM A CIRCLE AROUND ME! AND DON'T FORGET...

NOT A SINGLE LIVING CREATURE ON THIS EARTH CAN MAKE A MOVE WITHOUT YOU SEEING IT!

COME ON, YOU BEASTS! DON'T JUST STAND THERE!

PROTECT ME FROM THEM!

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

IT'S LIKE MY SPINNING STEEL BALL IS EQUIPPED WITH SOME KIND OF CAMERA!

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

IS THIS THE POWER OF THE CORPSE?

DID THE EYE REALLY MANIFEST THIS NEW ABILITY FOR MY STEEL BALLS?

IT STARTED AFTER THAT PART OF THE CORPSE FORCED IT-SELF INTO MY EYE...

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

ORA AAA!

KRAAANG

メキャ

ドカ

KRAK

SKRUNCH

GYA AAAA AAAA UGH!

ベキ

KRK

KRK

I'LL FINISH THIS BASTARD WITH MY STEEL BALLS!

JOHNNY, GO GET YOUR ARM BACK!

EITHER WAY, I'M ENDING THIS RIGHT HERE!

AM I JUST LUCKY, OR DO I OWE THAT CORPSE A BIG FAT THANK-YOU?

DORYAA!

WELL, WOULD YOU LOOK AT THAT! NYO HO!

THAP

WSSSH

ハアア

WSH

WSH

WSH

...

SKF

SKF

SKF

SKF

SKF SKF ザザ
SKF ザ
SKF ザ
SKF ザ
SKF
WSH
WSH
WSH
HE'S GONE! HE MUST HAVE ESCAPED WHEN THE DINOSAURS SCAT-TERED!
W... WHERE IS HE, GYRO?!
WHERE DID HE GO?!
HE CAN'T CHANGE HIS OWN SHAPE. HE'S JUST THE COMMANDER... WHICH MEANS HE MUST BE HIDING SOMEWHERE GIVING ORDERS TO THE OTHERS!
HE'S STILL HUMAN. IF HE COULD TRANSFORM HIMSELF INTO A DINOSAUR, HE WOULD'VE DONE IT TO CLIMB UP THE CLIFF.
NO, I WOULDN'T BET ON IT, JOHNNY.
HE'S COMING FOR US! THE BASTARD TURNED HIMSELF INTO A DINOSAUR!
I'LL GET MY HANDS ON YOU SOON ENOUGH, AND ONCE I DO...
GO ON AND OCCUPY YOURSELVES FIGHTING MY LITTLE DINOSAURS.
SKF ザ
SKF ザ
SKF ザ
...I'LL SLIT YOUR GODDAMN THROATS!
SKF SKF ザザ
SKF ザ
HOW DARE YOU, GYRO ZEPPELI!
AND HOW DARE YOU, JOHNNY JOESTAR!
OUR ONLY CHANCE OF STOPPING THEM IS TO FINISH OFF THAT STAND USER!
DAMMIT, THEY'RE CHARGING US!
WHERE IS HE?!
W... WHERE ?!

WHRRRRR

ギャリリリリ

I CAN SEE.

THERE'S NO DENYING IT...

THIS ABILITY REALLY HAS BUMPED MY SKILLS TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL!

IT'S USING THE SPIN TO MAKE *WAVES OF VIBRATIONS!*

MY STEEL BALL CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH THEIR SKIN!

WHAM

VWOOOOM

ドヒャ

ア

WHEN THE VIBRATIONS COLLIDE WITH SOMETHING, THEY BOUNCE BACK LIKE ECHOES ON A SCANNER.

THEY'RE LIKE *RIPPLES!*

THEN THE STEEL BALL SHOWS WHAT'S ON THE OTHER SIDE.

THE EYE IS SHOWING ME WHERE HE IS!

HE'S USING THAT DINOSAUR!

HE'S HIDING INSIDE OF IT!

AAA AAA AAA AAA AA AH !!

ORA ORA! DO YOUR THING, JOHNNY!

AURGH!

BLUR RRR GH!

SKUFFF

KAFF!

KAFF! KAFF!

MY... MY DINO-SAURS...

WHAT ARE YOU STAND-ING AROUND FOR?

TEAR THEM APART, ALL OF YOU...

HURRY UP AND KILL THOSE TWO!

AH!

GWSSSH

HOW...?

HOW DID YOU...KNOW WHERE...I WAS...?

KA-KRUNCH

URK!

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

BANG

URGH!

THMP

THMP

AAH...

AH...

AH...

OAH...

LOOKS LIKE YOUR ABILITY IS OUT OF JUICE.

WELL, WELL.

ALL THE DINOSAURS HAVE TURNED BACK INTO GOOD OL' HUMAN BEINGS.

ウオ

AHH!

オオオオ

UWIP

AAAAH

AAAAAAH

AAUGH!

AIIIEE EEEE!!

SNAP

RIP

KRUNCH

SKF

AAA AHH !!

SKF

WE REALLY DID IT...

IN SPITE OF EVERY-THING, WE FOUND IT!

WE FOUND THE SECOND PART OF THE CORPSE!

ドドド

...

HEY, GYRO...

?

THERE WERE *TWO* EYEBALLS THAT ROLLED TOWARD YOU, RIGHT?

YOU GOT *BOTH EYES,* DIDN'T YOU?! TELL ME YOU DID!

BOTH OF THEM MUST HAVE MERGED INTO YOUR EYE!

ドドド

DO

DO

DO

DIO

DO

DO

DO

GUSH

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE HAS THE OTHER ONE! DIO HAS THE LEFT EYE!!

DIO ?!

WHAT!!

FWIING

OP

OP

WHRL

DOOM

GWOOOO

CALM DOWN, JOHNNY. IT'S TOO LATE.

BUT DIO WAS UNDER FERDINAND'S CONTROL! WE HAVE TO CATCH HIM OR HE'LL GET AWAY WITH THE OTHER EYE!

DO YOU SEE THAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON? DIO IS STILL A DINOSAUR!

ONE EYE WENT TO MY STEEL BALLS, AND THE OTHER WENT TO DIO'S STAND ABILITY.

SEEMS LIKE, ANYWAY.

LOOKS LIKE DIO OUTDID US, AND THAT'S THAT.

WE CAN'T CATCH HIM FROM HERE.

...BUT SINCE HE HAS ONE EYE, HE'LL WANT THE OTHER.

THE ABILITY TO BECOME A DINOSAUR? DIEGO BRANDO MIGHT NOT BE IN LEAGUE THE TERRORISTS...

ESPECIALLY NOW THAT HE KNOWS ABOUT THE CORPSE.

WHEN HE TOOK THE EYE, ITS POWER MUST'VE BROUGHT BACK HIS DINOSAUR TRANSFORMATION AS A NEW ABILITY.

WHMMM

WINNING THIS RACE WON'T BE ENOUGH FOR HIM. HE WANTS ***SUPERIORITY, POWER,*** AND ***EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!***

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE LOST HALF OF THE SET TO A PRICK LIKE HIM.

YEAH.

I DON'T DOUBT IT.

HE'LL COME FOR YOU!

JUST LIKE HE'LL COME FOR THE REST OF THE CORPSE— FOR MY ARM TOO!

YOU'RE RIGHT...

WE'LL STILL FIND ALL THE OTHER PARTS BEFORE ANYONE ELSE!

DIO AND THE TERRORISTS STILL DON'T KNOW *HOW* WE FOUND IT!

BUT WE WERE THE ONES WHO FOUND *THIS* PART.

A CONSTELLATION, MAYBE? THE TURBO CONSTELLATION? MT. TURBO? TURBO ROCK?

OR MAYBE IT'S ANOTHER CODE OF SOME KIND.

TURBŌ COULD REFER TO A *HURRICANE OR WHIRL-WIND...*

THIS WRITING MUST SHOW THE NEXT LOCATION.

T-U-R-B-Ō.

YOU KNOW, GYRO...

NOT TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT, BUT...

SOMETHING'S BOTHERING ME. SOMETHING FERDINAND SAID.

YOU MUST'VE HEARD HIM WRONG.

HE SAID THAT THE CORPSE WAS *1,900 YEARS OLD.*

IT WAS JUST A SLIP OF THE TONGUE, BUT STILL. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT?

THEN HE MISSPOKE.

HE PROBABLY MEANT 190 YEARS.

HE SAID HE COULDN'T BELIEVE THE EYES WERE FROM A CORPSE MORE THAN 1,900 YEARS OLD I'M SURE OF IT!

NO! I KNOW WHAT HE SAID!

YOU NEVER PAY ATTENTION TO A DAMN THING ANYONE SAYS, BUT NOW YOU WANNA GET HUNG UP ON THE DETAILS? CAN'T YOU SEE I'M TRYIN' TO FIGURE OUT THIS CLUE?

IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE. C'MON, JOHNNY, YOU KNOW HOW YOU ARE.

YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S NOT POSSIBLE...

THE YEAR WOULD HAVE BEEN ZERO A.D.! DO WE KNOW FOR A FACT THAT NOBODY CAME TO NORTH AMERICA BACK THEN?

BUT WHAT IF IT IS?

THERE ***WERE*** PEOPLE HERE!

AFTER ALL, THE INDIANS HAVE ALWAYS LIVED HERE.

THE TERRORISTS KNOW WHO THE CORPSE BELONGS TO.

THEY'VE TAKEN OVER THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF! THIS RACE IS BEING RUN BY ***TERROR-ISTS!***

THE ***TERROR-ISTS*** HAVE THE PROOF! THAT'S WHY THEY'RE DOING ALL OF THIS.

...

THERE'S NO PROOF OF THAT.

A SAINT FROM 1,900 YEARS AGO...

...

COULD IT BE ...?

I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON THAT HORSE!

OUR HORSES GOT AWAY FROM THE SCALY FREAKS IN THE VILLAGE AND WENT ON AHEAD TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN!

LET'S NOT WAIT UNTIL THE SUN COMES UP TO GET MOVING. DIO IS STILL AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.

THERE'S VALKYRIE! YOURS IS THERE TOO.

LOOK! OVER THERE!

OH...!

DA-DUM

	Race Standings	Total Points	
1	Diego Brando	150	1
2	Sand Man	140	3
3	Johnny Joestar	80	2
4	Hot Pants	55	5
5	Pocoloco	53	9
6	Gyro Zeppeli	36	4
7	Mountain Tim	35	Unplaced
8	Zen Monde		7
9	Norisuke Higashikata		

WE'RE ONLY 40 MILES FROM THE THIRD-STAGE FINISH LINE!

I DON'T CARE WHETHER IT'S CHOCK-FULL OF TERRORISTS OR ANYTHING ELSE.

THE RACE IS STILL WHAT MATTERS.

I HAVE TO WIN 100 POINTS ON THIS STAGE NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES! SO LET'S GO, JOHNNY!

...ITS POWER CAN'T TELL ME HOW TO GET RICH.

IT CAN'T TEACH ME HOW TO PLEASE A WOMAN.

AS AMAZING AS THIS HOLY CORPSE MAY BE...

AND IT SURE AS HELL CAN'T CHANGE A DEATH PENALTY TO NOT GUILTY.

SKF

THE RACERS ARE FINALLY MAKING THEIR WAY DOWN FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO END THE THIRD STAGE! CAÑON CITY AND THE FINISH LINE ARE JUST THREE MILES AHEAD!

ドドド

CHAPTER 32:

Third Stage Finish Line: Cañon City

WITH THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS AT THEIR BACKS, A GROUP OF RACERS HAS MADE IT TO WITHIN TWO MILES OF THE FINISH LINE AT CAÑON CITY. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT OUR LEAD CONTENDERS!

ドドド

Dott Han
Gaucho
Baba Yaga
Sand Man
Pocoloco
Diego Brando
Gyro Zeppeli
Johnny Joestar

AND AFTER A SHORT GAP, WE HAVE GYRO ZEPPELI...

...JOHNNY JOESTAR, OUR CURRENT THIRD-PACE TITLE HOLDER...

...AND THE ENGLISHMAN DIEGO BRANDO, ALL NECK AND NECK!

CHAPTER 32:

Third Stage Finish Line: Cañon City

WITH 150 POINTS COMBINED IN THE FIRST TWO STAGES, DIO IS LEADING THE SCOREBOARD.

AND IN SECOND PLACE IS SAND MAN WITH 140.

BUT OF ALL OF THOSE RIDERS, IT'S DIEGO BRANDO WHOSE BIZARRE BEHAVIOR DEFIES EXPLANATION!

	Race Standings	Total Points	Second Stage Placement	Second Stage Points
1	Diego Brando	150	1	100
2	Sand Man	140	3	40
3	Johnny Joestar	80	2	50
4	Hot Pants	55	5	30
5	Pocoloco	53	9	13
	Gyro Zeppeli	36	4	35
	Mountain Tim	35	Unplaced	0
	n Monde	30	7	20
	Higashikata	28	6	25
	ott Han	21	8	15

DOOM

ガン

DIO'S STUCK TO HIM LIKE GLUE!

AND YET DIO'S SIGHTS ARE SET ON THE COMPETITOR IN SIXTH PLACE WITH 36 POINTS— GYRO ZEPPELI!

DO

ドド

WITH JUST TEN POINTS SEPARATING THEM, SAND MAN SHOULD BE HIS GREATEST RIVAL!

DO DO DO

ドドド

DIO ONLY NEEDS TO FINISH AHEAD OF SAND MAN TO PROTECT HIS SPOT IN FIRST PLACE!

DO DO

ドド

DO DO

ドド

THINK HE'LL ATTACK US WITH IT?

...DIO GOT A PRETTY GOOD FEEL FOR HIS NEW STAND ABILITY.

BACK ON THE MOUNTAIN...

RIGHT HERE IN THE OPEN?

GLANCE チラッ

NO, GYRO.

THE HOT AIR BALLOONS HAVE TOO MANY EYES ON THE FINISH LINE. DIO WON'T DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD GET HIM DISQUALIFIED.

NO, HE'LL TRY TO BEAT YOU AT THE END OF THE THIRD STAGE, FAIR AND SQUARE.

DO DO DO DO DO

AS IF HE'S COMPLETELY UNCONCERNED WITH SAND MAN AND OTHERS LEADING THE RACE!

HE'S ACTING AS IF DEFEATING ***GYRO ZEPPELI*** *IS MORE IMPORTANT TO HIM THAN WINNING THIS STAGE!*

DO DO DO DO DO

ドガッ

BA-DUM

THAT'S HIS WINNING TACTIC! THE SAME ONE HE USED BEFORE!

ドガッ

BA-DUM

ドガッ

BA-DUM

ドガッ

IN HIS MIND, PASSING YOU MEANS HE'LL PASS SAND MAN AND CLINCH THE WIN!

HE'S FIGURING OUT OUR HORSES' HABITS EVEN MORE COMPLETELY THAN BEFORE!

ドゴォ

VWOOO

EXCEPT THIS TIME, HE'S PUTTING HIS NEWFOUND *DINOSAUR ABILITIES* TO GOOD USE!

DOOM

ドゴ

ドゴ

ドゴ

HE'S COUNTING OUR HORSES' BREATHS...

MEASURING THEIR HEART-BEATS...

HOW MUCH THEY'RE SWEATING ...

...AND THE EXACT LENGTH OF THEIR STRIDES!

DIO MIGHT BE BEHIND US NOW...

BUT WATCH OUT, GYRO!

ドド

ドド

ドド

...BUT HE'S READING US LIKE AN OPEN BOOK!

NO ONE HAS EVER FACED ANYTHING LIKE THIS—NOT EVEN THE HORSES THEMSELVES! EACH COMPETITOR WILL HAVE TO WEIGH THEIR CHOICES ON THEIR OWN!

AND HOW WILL THE HORSES' MUSCLES FARE AFTER RUNNING TIRELESSLY FOR FIVE LONG DAYS THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS?

WHICH PATH WILL OUR INTREPID RIDERS CHOOSE?

1

2

Left

Right

NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, STANDING BETWEEN OUR RIDERS AND THE FINISH LINE IS CAÑON LAKE! A BODY OF WATER WITH A CIRCUMFERENCE OF 2.4 MILES!

THE LEFT-HAND PATH IS ONLY ONE MILE LONG. THAT'S HALF A MILE SHORTER, BUT THE PATH TWISTS UP AND DOWN ALONG SHEER CLIFFS WITH EVEN HARSHER UNDULATIONS THAN OUR RIDERS ASSAILED IN THE MOUNTAINS!

THE RIGHT-HAND CIRCUITOUS ROUTE IS LEVEL AND STEADY, BUT THE DISTANCE TO THE FINISH LINE IS A LONG 1.5 MILES.

I HAVE A DESCRIPTION OF THE TERRAIN HERE FOR THOSE OF YOU UNFAMILIAR.

VALKYRIE CAN CROSS THAT. AND IT'S ONLY A QUARTER MILE ACROSS. NOW *THAT'S* A SHORTCUT.

EVEN AT THE DEEPEST PARTS, THE WATER'S ONLY 220 CM DEEP— THAT'S JUST OVER SEVEN FEET.

180
200
220
180
220
180

LOOK AT THE MAP. SEE THE LAKE?

YOU'RE RIGHT. WE NEED TO THINK OF THE HORSES, WHICH IS WHY WE'RE GOING *THIS* WAY.

JOHNNY.

WSH
WSH
WSH
TMP

AND NATURALLY, SAND MAN IS GOING LEFT!

BUT WHAT'S THIS?! POCOLOCO IS FOLLOWING AFTER HIM! HE'S BETTING ON THE CLIFFS!

THINK OF YOUR HORSE!

WE HAVE TO TAKE THE RIGHT-HAND PATH, GYRO! I DON'T WANT TO HEAR A WORD FROM YOU ABOUT GOING LEFT.

GOING EASY ON OUR HORSES AS LONG AS POSSIBLE WILL BE THE KEY TO WINNING THIS!

SPLASH

DOTT HAN TURNS RIGHT...

...AND BABA YAGA OVERTAKES GAUCHO AS BOTH RIDERS FOLLOW SUIT!

BA-DUM
BA-DUM

BA-DUM
ドドドドドドドド
BA-DUM
ドドドドドドドド
BA-DUM
ドドドドドドドド
BA-DUM
ドドドドドドドド
!!
AH!
SPLASH
ドドドドドドドド
ドドドドドドドド

HUH?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINKING?!

...

SPLSH

WHAT A SHOCK! THERE'S A THIRD ROUTE!

SPLSH SPLSH

GYRO ZEPPELI HAS LEAPT INTO THE LAKE, FOLLOWED BY DIEGO BRANDO!

BUT IT'S A RISKY MOVE IF I'VE EVER SEEN ONE! PUSHING THROUGH THAT WATER IS BOUND TO TIRE OUT THOSE HORSES!

THE DISTANCE ACROSS IS A SCANT QUARTER MILE! THIS MIGHT BE THE FASTEST WAY.

AND YET DIO, A MASTER JOCKEY, HAS DELIBERATELY CHOSEN THIS ROUTE ANYWAY!

THIS HAS GOTTEN INTERESTING, FOLKS! THE DEAD HEAT FOR THE FINISH LINE IS ON!

KREEN

KREEN

SPLASH

CRAP!

"IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DON'T COME." IS THAT IT?

DAMMIT, GYRO!

NEEEIGH!

TUG

CREAK

OUR HORSES WILL BE DONE FOR!

AND WHAT IF WE HIT A MUDDY PATCH ON THE BOTTOM, HUH?

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND, GYRO?!

CROSSING THROUGH DEEP WATER IS LIKE PULLING ANOTHER HORSE WITH YOUR OWN. THE WATER RESISTANCE WILL PUT STRESS ON DIFFERENT MUSCLES THAN YOUR HORSE IS USED TO USING!

SPLISH

WE WON'T PUT ANY STRAIN ON OUR HORSES' LEGS!

THAT'S WHY WE'LL TAKE IT AS EASY AS POSSIBLE, JUST LIKE YOU SAID!

CREAK CREAK

SPLISH

SPLISH

DIO'S PROBABLY GONNA DO THE SAME THING!

WSH WSH

ZIP

WE'LL ONLY GO FAST ENOUGH TO BARELY BEAT THE OTHERS TAKING THE LONG WAY AROUND.

IF I DON'T, I'LL BE THAT MUCH FARTHER FROM WINNING.

I WILL GET 100 POINTS THIS STAGE!

MARK MY WORDS!

I ENTERED THIS RACE TO WIN.

MY COUNTRY IS COUNTING ON ME!

I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT THAT'S HOW IT IS.

YOU CAN'T WIN AGAINST DIO!

YOU CAN'T WIN THIS STAGE!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE.

LET'S GO BACK, GYRO!

WE'LL GO BACK TO SHORE AND TAKE THE RIGHT-HAND ROUTE.

GYRO, I'M NOT JUST SAYING THAT BECAUSE DIO CAN SEE YOUR HORSE'S HEARTBEAT OR BECAUSE OF HIS DINOSAUR ABILITIES.

IT'S NOT SOME WEAKNESS OR SHORT-COMING OF YOURS, EITHER.

IT'S NOT ANY-THING LIKE THAT.

BUT... HOW DO I PUT IT?

IN THE FIRST AND SECOND STAGES, YOU *SHOULD* HAVE WON.

WITH YOUR HORSE-RIDING SKILL AND THE WAY YOU COMPETE...

...THE WIN SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOURS.

IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW SO MUCH BETTER THAN ME, THEN GET TO THE POINT!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY? SPIT IT OUT!

ALL RIGHT, JOHNNY JOESTAR.

I KNOW, JUST LIKE I KNOW YOU CAN'T BEAT SAND MAN EITHER. FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE, I KNOW.

MAYBE YOU THINK YOU LOST THE FIRST STAGE BECAUSE OF SOME UNFORTUNATE HAPPENSTANCE BEYOND YOUR CONTROL, BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE!

YOU LOST BECAUSE OF *SOMETHING DEEPER.*

GYRO, I CAN'T BE ANY CLEARER THAN THIS— YOU *WILL* LOSE TO DIO!

...

THE TECHNIQUES AND DETERMINATION THAT YOU'VE APPLIED TO THIS COMPETITION...

...HAVE BEEN TAUGHT AND HANDED DOWN TO YOU BY YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR PARENTS. I KNOW THAT YOU'RE DRIVEN AND DESPERATE...

...TO SAVE AN INNOCENT CHILD WHO YOU'VE BEEN ORDERED TO EXECUTE.

BUT ALL THOSE THINGS HAVE BEEN ***PASSED DOWN*** TO YOU FROM SOMEONE ELSE.

EVERYTHING YOU HAVE WAS ***GIVEN*** TO YOU!

DIO IS DIFFERENT.

EVERYTHING HE HAS—HIS SKILLS, HIS STATUS, EVEN HIS FOOD—HE'S *TAKEN* FROM SOMEBODY ELSE.

HE'S EVEN STOLEN HIS FATE! FROM THE DAY HE WAS BORN, DIO HAS BEEN A PERSON WHO *TAKES!*

DIO WAS SHAPED BY *HUNGER.*

I'M NOT SAYING EITHER IS GOOD OR BAD. BUT IN THIS TRANSCONTINENTAL RACE, NOTHING IS PRETTY. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU WILL ALWAYS REAR ITS HEAD AT THE FINAL, DESPERATE MOMENTS!

YOU WERE SHAPED BY YOUR *INHERITANCE.*

THAT DIFFERENCE WILL STEAL YOUR VICTORY, CHEW YOU UP, AND SPIT YOU BACK OUT!

...

WHO DOES HE THINK HE IS?

BUT COMPARED TO THE LIKES OF DIO...

...YOUR HUNGER MUST BE MUCH, MUCH NOBLER.

TO WIN, YOU HAVE TO BE *HUNGRY.*

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, JOHNNY?

THAT I'M A GUTLESS BRAT WHO WAS SPOILED BY MY PARENTS? IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?

SPLASH

I'M GOING BACK TO THE SHORE.

I'M SORRY, BUT I'M TAKING THE RIGHT-HAND PATH.

GYRO...YOU HAVE TO BE **HUNGRY** TO WIN. BUT LITTLE BY LITTLE, YOU CAN STILL **GROW.**

TAKE SECOND OR THIRD PLACE IN THIS STAGE. THAT'S ALL YOU NEED. THERE'S A LONG WAY LEFT IN THIS RACE.

SOMEONE WHO HAS INHERITED EVERYTHING LIKE YOU HAVE CAN STILL WIN... AS LONG AS YOU CAN GROW, SLOW AND STEADY.

WHAT'S THIS? DIO IS PICKING UP SPEED!

IS THIS A SHOW OF STRENGTH MEANT TO RATTLE GYRO? OR IS EVERYTHING SIMPLY GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN?

HE'S BUILDING DISTANCE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND GYRO SO THAT WHEN HE MAKES LANDFALL, HE'LL BE IN THE LEAD. HE'S ALREADY CROSSED A THIRD OF THE LAKE!

SPSSSSH

THAT'S WHY I DECIDED TO FOLLOW YOU. IT'S WHY I JOINED THE STEEL BALL RUN.

I WANT TO SEE YOU WIN. I WANT TO LEARN FROM YOU.

...

THIS IS GETTING GOOD! GYRO IS MAKING A MOVE!

GYRO ZEPPELI HAS ACCEPTED DIO'S CHALLENGE! HE'S PICKING UP SPEED!

SPLASH

ドドド

ドドド

HAFFFFF

HAFF

HAFF

AFTER EVERY TWO BREATHS, IT LETS OUT A DEEP BREATH...

GYRO'S HORSE'S PULSE IS 198.

...THEN LURCHES TO THE LEFT.

AND THEN IT SHAKES ITS HEAD.

LURCH

SHAKE

SHAKE

SPLASH

...

THAT HORSE WILL STEP ONTO LAND WITH ITS *LEFT LEG.*

AND WITH THE LENGTH OF ITS STRIDE, ON ITS 75TH STEP, IT WILL STEP ON *THAT BRANCH.*

BUT THERE'S STILL ONE THING GYRO AND HIS HORSE HAVEN'T REALIZED YET.

I'M TAKING A RISK BY CROSSING THE LAKE THIS QUICKLY, BUT AS LONG AS I STAY AHEAD OF GYRO BEFORE HE REACHES THAT BRANCH...

...HE'LL HAVE NO CHANCE OF PASSING MY HORSE!

THAT'S WHEN ITS MUSCLES WILL BE OVERCOME WITH FATIGUE.

IT'S ABOUT 1,000 FEET FROM THE FINISH.

...IT'LL BE AT ITS TOP SPEED.

ITS PULSE WILL BE POUNDING AWAY AT 263 BPM.

AND THE VERY MOMENT IT STEPS ON THAT BRANCH...

JUST STAY AHEAD...

...UNTIL THAT BRANCH.

UNTIL THEN, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS STAY AHEAD OF GYRO.

ON THE LEFT, SAND MAN HAS CLEARED THE CLIFFS AND IS SPRINTING FOR THE FINISH LINE!

THEY'VE COME AROUND THE LAST BEND ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE LAKE!

DOTT HAN, GAUCHO, AND BABA YAGA ARE GOING FASTER NOW!

SPLISH

SPLISH

SPLISH

SPLISH

AND NOW DIO COMES ASHORE!

BA-DUM

ドドド

THE LEFT LEG...

HE'S ON DIO'S TAIL LIKE A HOUND AFTER A HARE!

VVUM

ドドド

THERE GOES HIS WATERLOGGED BLANKET! HIS DRENCHED LEATHER BAG! HIS CANTEEN!

IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S TRYING TO LIGHTEN THE LOAD ON HIS HORSE AS MUCH AS HE CAN!

BUT WHAT'S THIS?! GYRO ZEPPELI HAS STARTED TOSSING HIS BAGGAGE!

WSH

WSH

SNAP

SNAP

SNAP

HE'S EVEN DITCHED HIS SADDLE! HE'S DROPPED EVERYTHING EXCEPT FOR THE REINS!

HE'S SPEEDING UP WITH EVERY OUNCE OF WEIGHT HE DISCARDS!

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

AND NOW OFF GO HIS JACKET AND CLOAK!

FWM

FWM

FWM

NOT EVEN HIS HOLSTER IS TOO SACRED!

TWO...

THREE STEPS LEFT...

ドドドドドド

ONE!

KRUNCH

GOOD.

HIS HORSE HAS REACHED ITS TOP SPEED... AND I'M AHEAD.

GYRO ZEPPELI CAN'T CATCH DIO!

BUT HE CAN'T CLOSE THE GAP!

HUFFFFF

VALKYRIE CAN'T SEEM TO GO ANY FASTER!

HFFF

HFFF

HFFF

GYRO IS SLOWING DOWN! THE FATIGUE IS FINALLY TAKING ITS TOLL!

UH-OH! THEY'RE BOTH SLOWING DOWN! JUST ONE FURLONG FROM THE FINISH LINE, THE EXHAUSTION FROM CROSSING THE LAKE IS ALREADY CATCHING UP WITH THEM!

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BUT DIO IS STAYING AHEAD! GYRO CAN'T CATCH HIM!

HFFF ...

HE'S BREAKING AWAY!!

DIO'S ESCAPING!

DO DO DO DO DO

AND NOW THE GAP IS WIDENING!

POCOLOCO PASSES GYRO!

ドドド

TRICKL

I MAY HAVE INHERITED THESE STEEL BALLS FROM MY MOTHERLAND...

TRICKL

SPLASH

...BUT THEY'RE ON OUR SIDE!

BURBL

HOW ABOUT THE WEIGHT NOW, VALKYRIE? IS THIS LIGHTER FOR YOU?

SHOW ME YOUR GRIT, VALKYRIE.

THE HUMAN BODY IS 70 PERCENT WATER.

HE SAID WE WERE GUTLESS AND SPOILED. BUT *YOU'RE* NOT GUTLESS, ARE YOU?

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

BURBL

BURBL

WRING

WITH 80 YARDS TO THE FINISH LINE, GYRO IS SPEEDING UP AGAIN!

ドドド

AND THERE'S A STUMBLE FROM VALKYRIE!

GYRO'S HORSE LOST ITS BALANCE!

ドッ

ォォォ

SKRAAAK

HIS SPEED HAD PEAKED! HE'D HIT HIS LIMIT! HOW IS HE SPEEDING UP?!

IMPOSSIBLE!

GURGL GURGL

PTOO!

GURGL

GURGL GURGL

GASTRO-LITH...

TEN YARDS!

THIRTY YARDS LEFT!

GYRO ZEPPELI IS OFF-KILTER!

AND THERE'S THE FINISH !!

Hi

DOOM

HAFF
HAFF
HAFF
YAAH
YAAH
...AND JOHNNY JOESTAR SEIZED THE OPENING!
YAAH
THERE IS NO EVIDENCE INDICATING THAT THIS WAS AN INTENTIONAL ACT.
TO CLARIFY, STEPPING ON THE ROCK HAS BEEN RULED **PURELY HAPPEN-STANCE.**
DIEGO BRANDO WILL NOT BE DIS-QUALIFIED.
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
...
ドドド
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
ドドド
ドドド
YAAH
YAAH
JOHNNY JOESTAR!
IT'S JOHNNY JOESTAR!
STEEL BALL RUN
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAH
YAAAAAH
WHAT AN UPSET! IT'S JOHNNY JOESTAR, THEN DIEGO BRANDO, FOLLOWED BY GYRO ZEPPELI!
JUST BEFORE THE FINISH LINE, DIEGO BRANDO'S HORSE STEPPED ON A **SMALL ROCK**, WHICH STRUCK GYRO'S HORSE. BOTH RIDERS LOST THEIR BALANCE...
NOW POCOLOCO! AND SAND MAN BARRELS ACROSS THE LINE! THEN DOTT HAN, BABA YAGA, AND THE THREEPENNY OPERA ARE IN, WITH GAUCHO BRINGING UP THE REAR!

YAAAH

YAAAH

YAAAH

YAAAH

YAAAH

YAAAH

THAT SO, HUH?

"...WAS NOT BECAUSE OF UNFORTUNATE HAPPENSTANCE BEYOND YOUR CONTROL, BUT BECAUSE OF *SOMETHING DEEPER.*"

"THE REA-SON YOU LOST ..."

YAAAH

YAAAH

YAAAH

YOU WON'T LET ANYTHING STOP YOU FROM FINDING THE *HOLY CORPSE.*

AND HUNGRIER THAN *YOU,* JOHNNY.

MAYBE IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

YAAAH

YAAAH

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, JOHNNY.

YAAAH

I NEED TO BE HUNGRY. HUNGRIER THAN DIO.

YAAAH

MAYBE SEARCHING FOR THE CORPSE IN EARNEST WILL HELP ME GROW.... EVEN IF JUST A LITTLE.

YOU'RE HUNGRY, AND YOU'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES.

SO MAYBE I SHOULD TAKE A PAGE OUT OF YOUR BOOK.

...HOT PANTS CROSSED THE FINISH LINE UNOPPOSED TO TAKE THE WIN.

JOHNNY JOESTAR MAY HAVE WON THE DEAD HEAT AT THE LAKE, BUT ONE HOUR BEFORE THAT...

BUT EVEN AS THIS GROUP FINISHED, THE **FOURTH STAGE** WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY!

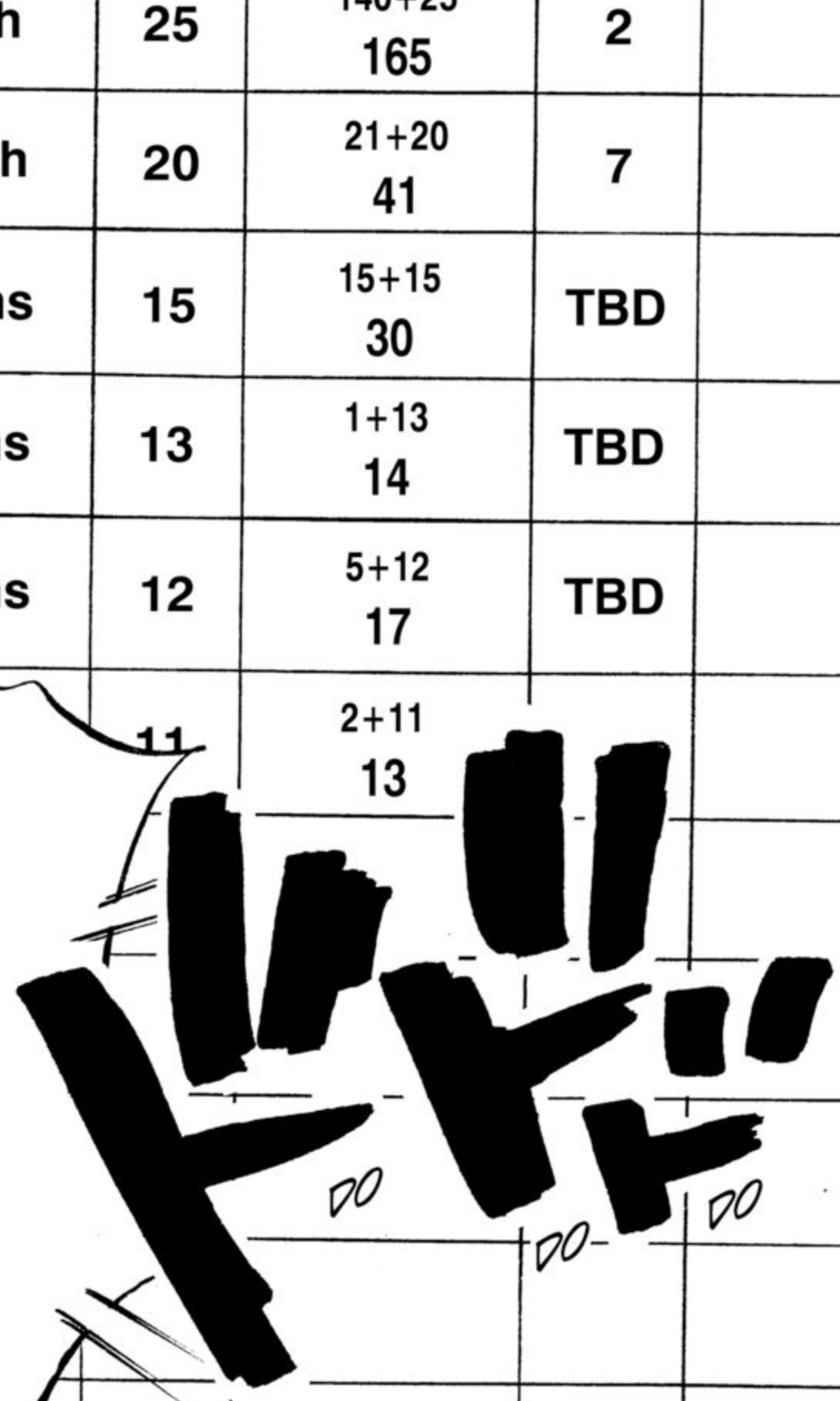
3. STAGE

Monument Valley
→Cañon City

Participants: 2,469

	Name	Third Stage Time	Points Earned	Total Points (1st & 2nd)+3rd	Current Standing	
1	Hot Pants	5 days, 9 hours, 51 minutes, 42 seconds	100	55+100 155	3	
2	Johnny Joestar	5 days, 11 hours, 4 minutes, 21 seconds	50	80+50 130	4	
3	Diego Brando	Neck	40	150+40 190	1	
4	Gyro Zeppeli	Neck	35	36+35 71	6	
5	Pocoloco	2½ lengths	30	53+30 83	5	
6	Sand Man	1 length	25	140+25 165	2	
7	Dott Han	½ length	20	21+20 41	7	
8	Baba Yaga	5 lengths	15	15+15 30	TBD	
9	The Threepenny Opera	6 lengths	13	1+13 14	TBD	
10	Gaucho	2 lengths	12	5+12 17	TBD	
11				2+11 13		

THE OFFICIAL THIRD STAGE RESULTS ARE AS SHOWN. HOT PANTS HAS EARNED 100 POINTS AND THE ONE-HOUR TIME BONUS.



DO DO DO

DO DO DO

HOT PANTS!

DOOM

CHAPTER 33:

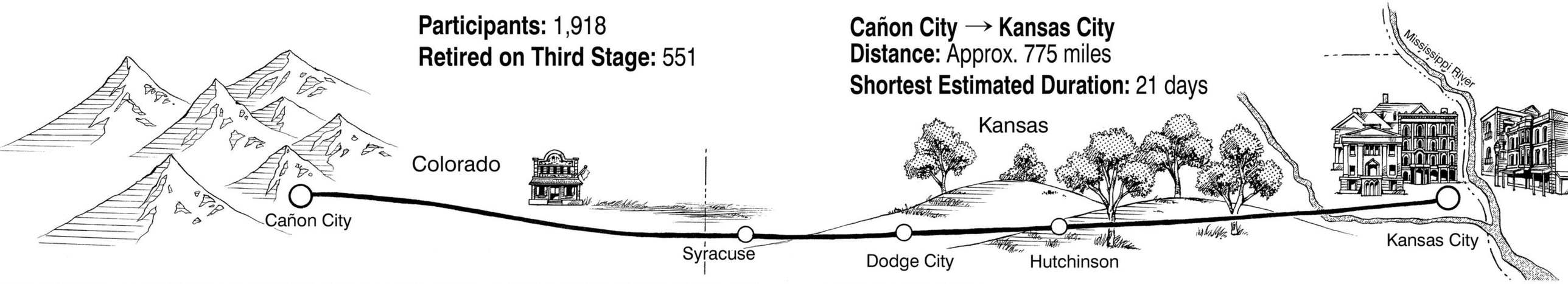
A Man's World, Part 1

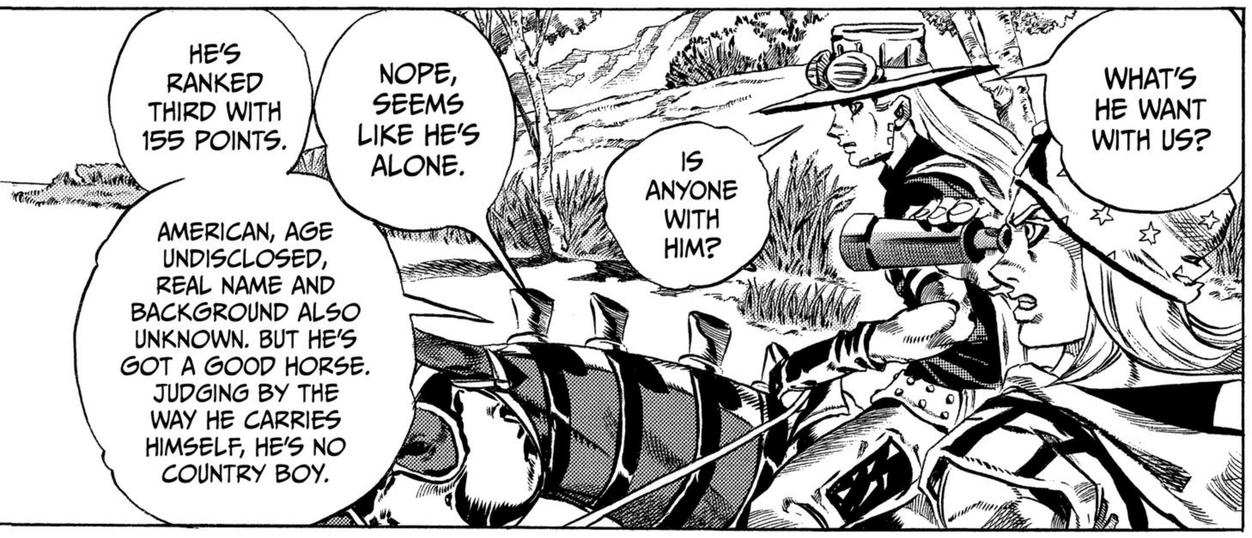
FOURTH STAGE

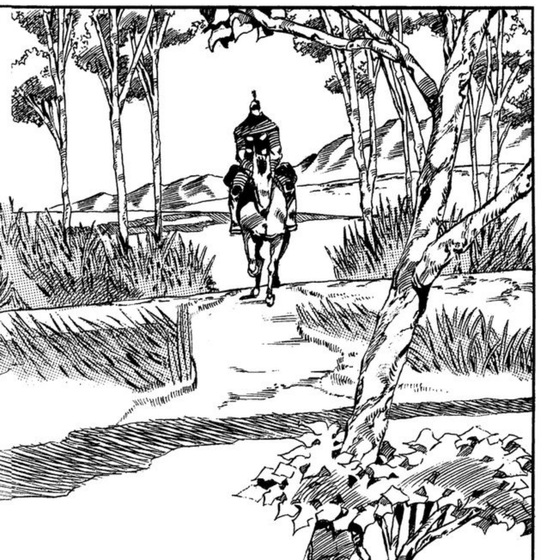
Participants: 1,918
Retired on Third Stage: 551

LITTLE GRAVE ON THE WIDE OPEN PRAIRIE

Cañon City → Kansas City
Distance: Approx. 775 miles
Shortest Estimated Duration: 21 days




HE'S RANKED THIRD WITH 155 POINTS.
NOPE, SEEMS LIKE HE'S ALONE.
IS ANYONE WITH HIM?
WHAT'S HE WANT WITH US?
AMERICAN, AGE UNDISCLOSED, REAL NAME AND BACKGROUND ALSO UNKNOWN. BUT HE'S GOT A GOOD HORSE. JUDGING BY THE WAY HE CARRIES HIMSELF, HE'S NO COUNTRY BOY.



FWSH

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

I'M GOING TO HANG YOU BOTH FROM THAT TREE.

LET'S SKIP THE INTRO-DUCTIONS AND GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT, SHALL WE?

GREETINGS, GENTLEMEN.

...

...

THE PENALTY FOR CATTLE RUSTLING...

YOU ATE MY COW, DID YOU NOT?

I PAID GOOD MONEY TO HAVE THAT COW LEFT TO GRAZE ALONG THE RACECOURSE FOR ME.

HP

THAT'S THE LAW. A TRIAL IS NOT REQUIRED.

NOT IN THIS SITUATION.

...IS *DEATH BY HANGING.* NOW SLIP THOSE NOOSES AROUND YOUR NECKS!

FLIP

HP

...

?

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS GUY TALKING ABOUT?

HP

C'MON, JOHNNY. JUST LOOK AT THE MEAT.

THE COYOTES HAVE ALREADY EATEN MOST OF IT!

WE'LL JUST TAKE A POUND AND A HALF FOR OURSELVES.

SOON THERE WON'T BE ANYTHING LEFT AT ALL.

GYRO, WE SHOULDN'T MESS WITH THAT.

SOME-ONE OWNS THIS ONE.

OH! THAT BRAND MUST HAVE BEEN HOT PANTS'S...

GASP!

SNAP

NOW HOLD ON JUST A SECOND. I'M NOT FROM THIS COUNTRY. I DON'T KNOW THE LAWS—

WHOA...

GYRO ?

?! ?!

?!

WHAT THE ...?!

WHRR

ギュル

!!

FWM

ゴゴゴ

ドドド

SHLF

SHLF

WHRR

HEY...!

HOT PANTS, HE'S...!

SHLOP

SHLOP

HE'S A STAND USER!!

FSSSSSS

FWIP

SSSSSSH

WHAT IS THIS ?!

ZWMMMM

WHAT ?!

SHLOP

SHLOP

MY ARM!

SQUEEZE

SHLOP SHLOP

IT'S SHRINK-ING!!

FSSSSSSSH

IT'S THE SAME FLESH...

THIS STUFF IS MADE OF FLESH!

...HE TOOK FROM MY ARM!

AAA AAA AAA UGH!

HE'S SPRAYING MY OWN FLESH BACK AT ME!

SHOK SHOK SHOK

I'M GOING TO SUFFO-CATE!

I... I CAN'T BREATHE!

THE TISSUE IS ALL FUSING TOGETHER!

ZWMMM

ズギュ

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

TURBO

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHAM

ドン!!!

CRAKL

CRAKL

CRAKL

CRAKL

JOLT

KRRR

KRRR

KRRR

URK!

CLUNK

TRMBL
TRMBL
TRMBL
JOHNNY, NOW! SHOOT HIM WHILE I'VE GOT THE BASTARD'S ARMS PARALYZED!
SHUDDR
I'VE LOCKED DOWN HIS ARMS! BUT IT'LL ONLY LAST A FEW SECONDS!
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
URGH...
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
SHUDDR
NGH...

WE DIDN'T DO IT!

LISTEN TO ME! THE COW HAD A GUNSHOT WOUND! IT WAS ALREADY DEAD WHEN WE FOUND IT!

WE DON'T EVEN HAVE GUNS! WE DON'T NEED THEM!

HURRY UP AND SHOOT! YOU'VE GOT A CLEAR SHOT! I...I CAN'T BREATHE!

GRAP

BANG

TREMBL

...

TREMBL

HP

TREMBL

IT DOESN'T MATCH MY NAILS! SEARCH US IF YOU WANT!

THE WOUND WAS FROM A LARGE-CALIBER BULLET!

THWUK

...

WSH

HP

QUIT WASTING TIME, JOHNNY! JUST SHOOT HIM! I CAN'T SCRAPE THIS STUFF OFF MY FACE!

WHRR

WHRR

GASP

SHF

...

ZOOO

SHF

BLINK

TWRL

TWRL

TWRL

...

...

...

SHF

TWRL

BUT YOU DID EAT THAT MEAT. YOU ATE MY COW!

WHAT AN ODD PAIR...

YOU'RE TELLING THE TRUTH.

CHAK

SO IF YOU EXPECT AN APOLOGY, YOU'RE SORELY MISTAKEN.

...

...

WAIT!

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT STAND ABILITY?!

WHOEVER SHOT MY COW IS GOING TO HANG.

WSH

BUT STILL, THAT FLESH FOAM SPRAY IS REALLY SOME-THING...

YOU COCKY SON OF A... COYOTES ATE MOST OF IT ANYWAY, YOU KNOW!

...HOW MANY OTHERS GOT THEIR ABILITIES THAT WAY?

NOT THAT IT MATTERS TO ME, BUT...

...

DURING THE SECOND STAGE?

IN THE *DEVIL'S PALM?*

WAS IT IN THE ARIZONA DESERT?

...

NOT EVEN A CLUE.

I DON'T KNOW.

NEITHER OF US DOES.

...

...

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BUT HOT PANTS DIDN'T SEEM TO KNOW ABOUT THE CORPSE.

HE'S NOT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OR THE TERRORISTS.

I DON'T THINK HE'S OUR ENEMY.

THEN WE'D PROBABLY BE DEAD.

WHAT IF HE WAS LYING?

HE MIGHT'VE BEEN TRYIN' TO TRICK US.

I'D HAVE SHOT HIM, YOU KNOW.

WELL, AND ONE OTHER THING.

I FIGURED IT OUT THANKS TO HIM.

FINALLY CLICKED WHEN I WAS USING THE SPIN SCAN TO FIND WHERE TO HIT HIS SPINE.

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

MAYBE NOT.

BUT THERE'S ONE THING I KNOW FOR SURE...

I CAN'T STAND THAT PRICK.

SHINE

ハンド

TURBO

TURBO

T-U-R-B-Ō MEANS "WHIRLWIND" IN LATIN.

BUT THE WORD "TURBO" ISN'T ANYWHERE ALONG THE ROUTE OR EVEN ON THE MAP AT ALL.

THERE'S NOTHING THAT EVEN REMOTELY FITS, NO MATTER HOW YOU STRETCH IT. FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIGURE OUT WHY THE CORPSE IS SHOWING ME THIS WORD.

TURBO CONSTELLATION. TURBO MOUNTAIN. TURBO ROCK. TURBO MARSH. TURBO TREE.

BUT NOW I REALIZE THAT MAYBE IT'S NOT ABOUT THE WORD.

WHAT IF EACH LETTER...

...IS INDICATING A LOCATION?

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THOSE? IF YOU CONVERT DECIMAL NUMBERS TO BINARY, *1 IS 1* BUT *2 IS 10.*

AND 3 IS *11*, 4 IS *100*, 5 IS *101*, 6 IS *110*, AND SO ON.

NUMBERS MADE OF ONLY ONES AND ZEROES.

THEY'RE CALLED *BINARY NUMBERS.*

THE PATTERNS INSIDE THE LETTERS AREN'T RANDOM. THEY'RE *NUMBERS.*

T U R B O

100111 = 39

110 = 6

11000 = 24

101110 = 94

101000 = 40

110 = 6

GIMME SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH. I NEED TO WORK THIS OUT.

W94° 93°

N39°

AND IN LATIN, B MEANS "NEXT."

WEST 94° 40' 6"!

NORTH 39° 6' 24"!

RUSTL

RUSTL

RUSTL

HERE! LOOK FOR THESE NUMBERS ON THE MAP.

THE T AT THE BEGINNING STANDS FOR HORIZONTAL IN LATIN, SO...

WHERE IS IT?

SHHF

WHAT'S AT THAT LOCATION, JOHNNY?!

KANSAS CITY!

KANSAS CITY

GO

GO

GO

GOO

GO

THAT SETTLES IT. THE NEXT CORPSE SPOT MUST BE THERE!

SO IT MATCHES THE ROUTE.

THAT SPOT IS RIGHT NEXT TO THE FOURTH-STAGE FINISH LINE!

NUMBERS ARE UNIVERSAL.

GO

OR MAYBE IT WAS SOME KINDA PROPHECY.

GO GO GO

GO

GO GO GO

BUT HOW WOULD SOME SAINT FROM THE DISTANT PAST KNOW ABOUT LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE?

IT LINES UP WITH OUR GOAL— *TO FINISH IN FIRST PLACE!*

GO GO GO

WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY IF HE WAS SOME HALF-WIT... BUT WE'RE NOT THAT LUCKY.

WE SHOULD ASSUME HE'S FIGURED IT OUT. BUT AT LEAST HE'S NOT IN LEAGUE WITH THE TERRORISTS.

EITHER WAY...

HE'S STILL GOT THE OTHER EYE! HE COULD FIGURE IT OUT JUST LIKE WE DID!

BUT WHAT ABOUT DIO ?!

DIO

OH!

GO GO GO

SO KANSAS CITY IT IS. THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT CORPSE PART.

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

THIS HOUSE...

...?

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

DIDN'T WE PASS BY THIS PLACE BEFORE?

HOLD UP, GYRO.

KA-CLOP

...THEY'RE ALL BUILT THE SAME WAY.

KA-CLOP

THE HOUSES AROUND HERE...

...

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

LOOK OVER THERE, GYRO!

LOOK!

KA-CLOP

IT'S THE SAME COW AS BEFORE!

IT'S THAT COW!

CRAP! HOT PANTS WENT OFF TO THE RIGHT, AND WE JUST FOLLOWED HIM WITHOUT THINKING!

WHERE DID WE GO WRONG? WE LOST A GOOD 20 MINUTES!

HE MADE US GO THE WRONG WAY!

NOW HANG ON! JUST HANG ON A DAMN MINUTE!

DAMN IT!

RUSTL

RUSTL

RUSTL

WE GOT TURNED AROUND!

HE PLANNED THIS OUT. HE TURNED RIGHT TO TRICK US!

WHY DO YOU KEEP TAKING HIS SIDE, JOHNNY?

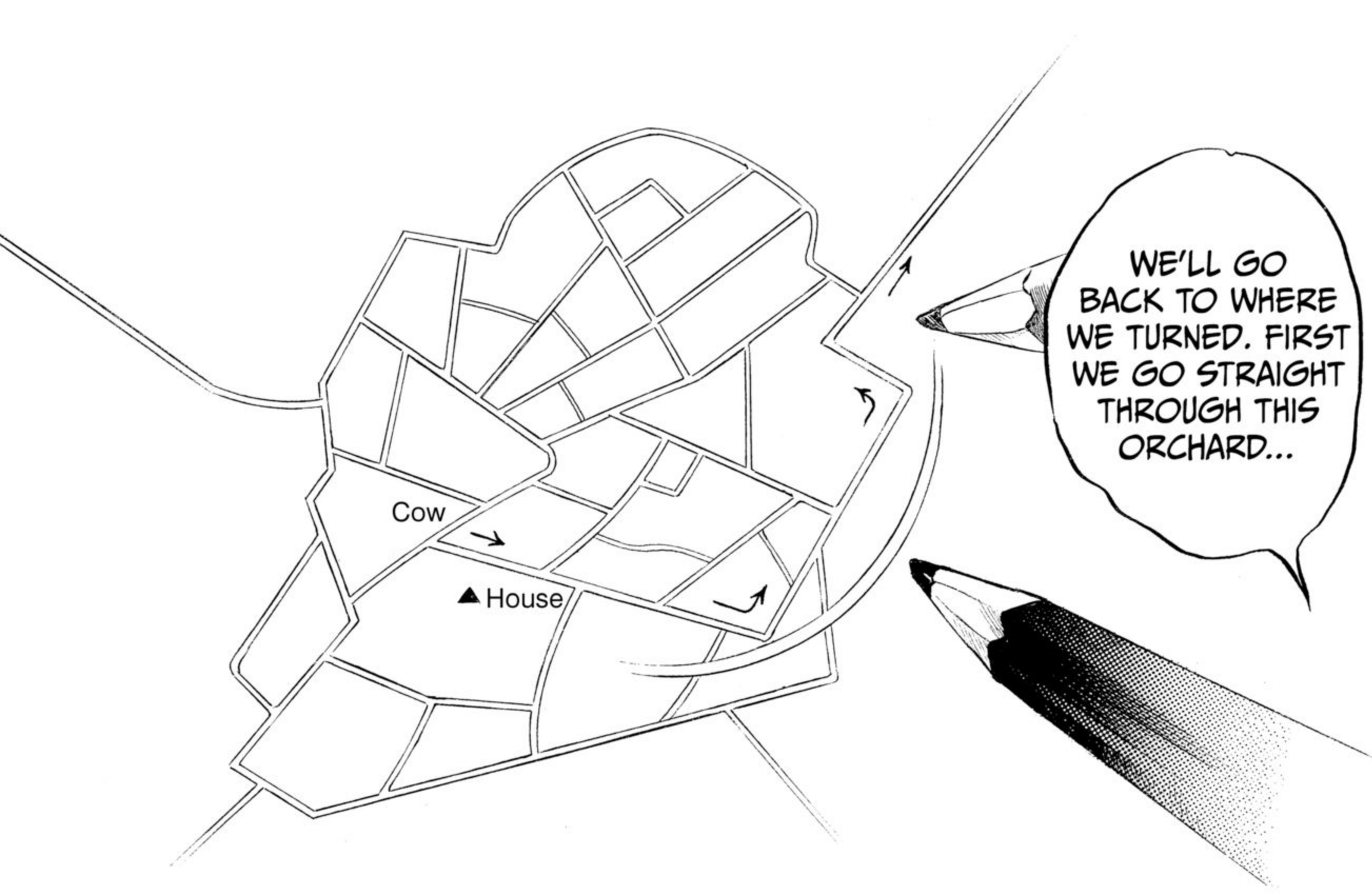
WE WERE JUST OVER THERE!

BUT IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM, WE WOULDN'T HAVE REALIZED THE CORPSE IS IN KANSAS CITY.

THAT ASSHOLE IS A DISEASE THAT'S INFECTING ALL MY GOOD LUCK!

THAT GUY'S A PLAGUE! I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT A MEASLY POUND AND A HALF OF BEEF CAUSED US THIS MUCH TROUBLE!

WHRL


Cow
House
WE'LL GO BACK TO WHERE WE TURNED. FIRST WE GO STRAIGHT THROUGH THIS ORCHARD...
...THEN LEFT AT THE END.
ANOTHER LEFT AT THE NEXT END.
AND TURN RIGHT AT THE FIRST TREE.
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

WHRL

...

...

IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?

IS THAT THE SAME COW?

THE SAME ONE FROM BEFORE?

WHY DO WE KEEP COMING OUT AT THE SAME PLACE?

...

OUR HOOF-PRINTS ARE STILL THERE.

WE'LL RETRACE OUR STEPS AND LOOK FOR THE RIGHT PATH.

THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!

WE ONLY TURNED THREE TIMES.

KLOP

KLOP

KLOP

COULD BE SOME FARM ROADS TOO SMALL TO BE ON THE MAP, THOUGH.

LOOK! THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD HAVE GOTTEN TURNED AROUND ON THAT PATH.

MAYBE WE'RE TURNING ON THOSE AND GOING IN CIRCLES.

WHIRL

FORTY MINUTES WASTED IN A SINGLE DAY! DIO'S GONNA OVERTAKE US!

BA-DADUM

THAT'S 40 MINUTES NOW!

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

WE HAVE TO HURRY!

DAMN IT! THAT'S ANOTHER 20 MINUTES UP IN SMOKE!

DOOM

GO
GO
GO

KA-CLOP

KA-CLOP

NOT ANOTHER INCH, YOU HEAR ME?! YOU STAY THE HELL AWAY FROM US!

STOP RIGHT THERE!

I'M WARNING YOU!

THIS IS A *PLUM* ORCHARD. THE FRUIT'S RICH IN IRON.

MAYBE THAT'S WHY MY COMPASS ISN'T POINTING THE RIGHT WAY.

WHICHEVER PATH I TAKE AND WHEREVER I GO, I ALWAYS END UP RIGHT BACK HERE!

I'VE LOST NEARLY AN HOUR HERE.

LOOK AT MY TRACKS! YOU CAN SEE I'VE PASSED THIS WAY FOUR TIMES.

THE QUESTION IS *WHY?* I'M JUST AS BAFFLED AS YOU ARE.

THIS IS THE FOURTH TIME I'VE FOUND MYSELF BACK HERE.

FOR ALL WE KNOW, YOU'RE THE ONE TRYING TO TRICK US!

PLEASE, HOT PANTS. JUST STAY BACK!

YOU'RE NOT BAD PEOPLE.

IF YOU WERE, I'D HAVE ALREADY KILLED YOU. SATISFIED?

THEN I'LL HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO TRUST YOU.

GET OUTTA HERE ALREADY.

WHAT DO WE CARE, HUH?

DON'T MAKE ME SAY IT AGAIN. WE WOULDN'T TRUST YOU IN A MILLION YEARS!

I SAID IT BEFORE, AND I STILL DON'T THINK HE'S OUR ENEMY.

I THINK HE'S SAYING THAT SINCE WE'RE ALL LOST...

...WE SHOULD TRUST EACH OTHER AND LOOK FOR A WAY OUT TOGETHER.

TELL ME WHAT THAT BASTARD JUST SAID.

THE HELL DID HE JUST SAY, JOHNNY?

...

WE SHOULD WORK TOGETHER UNTIL WE FIND THE MAIN ROAD!

WE ALL HAVE TO FIND THE WAY OUT OF HERE, DO WE NOT?

EAT SHIT, ASSHOLE!

I HOPE YOU FALL OFF YOUR HORSE!

TELL HIM TO GO EAT SHIT, JOHNNY.

TELL HIM YOURSELF.

TOSS

WHAT DO WE HAVE TO GAIN FROM JOINING UP WITH THE LIKES OF HIM?

I DON'T CARE IF YOU TRUST HIM, JOHNNY.

IF YOU AGREE TO COOPERATE, I'LL THROW IN SOME REAL FOOD.

AND LOOK!

THAT HOUSE...

THEY AREN'T POISONED.

I THOUGHT IT WAS ABANDONED, BUT SOMEONE MUST LIVE THERE.

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH SOMEONE'S INSIDE.

THESE ARE ROAST BEEF SAND-WICHES!

GYRO! IS HE EATING LIKE THIS EVERY DAY?!

MY GOD! THEY'VE EVEN GOT EGGS AND ONIONS!

WE WON'T GET ANYWHERE UNLESS WE TALK TO SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE AREA.

WE SHOULD ASK THE OWNER FOR DIRECTIONS!

FLAP

SHF

HMM...

DAM-MIT!

TROMP

DAMN THAT WEA-SEL!

HERE AGAIN ?!

I'M BACK AT THE SAME PLACE!

RUSTL

!?

HE FINISHED TENTH PLACE IN THE THIRD STAGE.

THAT'S GAUCHO.

HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, PAL...

HEY, YOU!

ARE YOU GUYS LOST TOO?

I'VE ASKED HIM AGAIN AND AGAIN...

...HOW TO GET OUT OF THIS ORCHARD!

THAT DEVIL'S STILL THERE!

NEXT TO THOSE CURTAINS BY THE DOOR! HE'S ALWAYS THERE AT THE WINDOW.

AND EVERY TIME, HE SAYS THE SAME THING.

YOU HEAR ME?! I'VE HAD ENOUGH FROM HIM, AND I WON'T HAVE NO MORE!

"YOU CAN LEAVE IF YOU KILL ME."

TMP

I'M DONE PLAYIN' AROUND!

COME OUT HERE, YOU LIAR!

YOU WANT ME TO SHOOT YOU?! THEN SHOW YER-SELF, COW-ARD!

KREEEEEEAK!

ギ

ギギギギ

ギ

FLAP

ヒラリ

KREEEEAK

SHF

...

KREAK

...

FLAP

RUSTL...

I'M MUCH OBLIGED FOR THE COURTESY OF YOUR VISIT.

WE MEET AGAIN.

...

YOU...

...I'LL DO IT! I'LL KILL YOU, I WILL! THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! TELL ME THE REAL WAY TO GETTIN' OUTTA HERE!

DON'T MESS WITH ME, BOY!

IF YOU REALLY WANNA DIE THAT BADLY...

THERE'S ONLY ONE CORRECT PATH.

...BUT IF YOU WANT TO CALL ME ONE, THAT'S YOUR PREROG-ATIVE.

I'M NO LIAR...

TMP

...YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME. THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS. IT'S A DECISION YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE EVENTUALLY.

IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE THIS PLACE...

...

HAH!

YOUR ARM IS SHAKIN'!

LOOK AT THAT!

...

GYRO! SHOULDN'T WE—

WAIT. WE STILL DON'T KNOW THE FULL PICTURE HERE.

ブル ブル QUR QUR

WHAT WILL IT BE?

WERE YOU LYING WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D SHOOT ME DEAD?

...TO GET A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

I'M BEGIN-NING ...

SURE, YOU'RE WITHIN RANGE, BUT THE BALLISTIC INACCURACY WILL CAUSE THE SHOT TO LAND A GOOD SIX INCHES OFF TO THE RIGHT.

TO ACCURATELY HIT ME, YOU'LL NEED TO BE AT LEAST FIVE STEPS CLOSER.

EVEN THEN, IT'S FAR FROM A GUARANTEED SHOT.

YOU'LL HAVE TO COME ANOTHER *FIVE STEPS* CLOSER.

...AND YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT TOO. THIS IS AN INTENSELY STRESSFUL SITUATION. I MAY EVEN FREEZE UP WITHOUT MEANING TO.

YEAH.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE I'M *AFRAID*...

TREMBL

THE GUN AT YOUR HIP IS A COLT MODEL 1873.

BUT BEFORE THAT, THERE'S ANOTHER IMPORTANT MATTER WE NEED TO DISCUSS.

AT YOUR CURRENT DISTANCE, YOU CAN AIM AT ME ALL YOU WANT, BUT THOSE BULLETS WON'T HIT THE MARK.

YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOUR DECISION.

QUR ガ
QUR ガ

ドドド

ボ

BANG

バ!!

TMP

ガ!!

FWSH

THAT'S IT! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!

CLATCH

ガ!

YOU HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO WALK AWAY.

BUT KNOW THAT IF YOU DO, THEN YOU'LL BE THE LIAR.

GYRO!

KRSSSH

SKSH

SKSH

SKSH

FWM

GRA
AAA
AAA
AAA
AH!!

BANG

BANG

BANG

SLUMP

KRSH

PUNCH

CHOK

BANG

WHAM

RAFF

BUT THE FORCE OF IMPACT IS STILL WEAK.

FIVE STEPS.

MY SHOT WAS STOPPED BY YOUR RIB CAGE AND MUSCLE TISSUE. THE BULLET REACHED YOUR HEART...

THIS IS THE DISTANCE FROM WHICH AIMING BECOMES MUCH MORE ACCURATE.

...BUT DIDN'T PENETRATE IT COMPLETELY.

GLANCE

OH CRAP!

NN...
OUH...

URK!

AHHH!
H...HOW
COULD
YOU?!

KOFF

H...
HOW
COULD
YOU
...?

AH...
OH MY
GOD...

IF I TAKE
ONE STEP
CLOSER...

AH...

IT...IT
BURNS...

KA-BLAM

ドカ！

ドカ！

WAIT! DON'T DO IT !!

ZUMM

TREMBL

TREMBL

RATTL

RATTL

ガタガタ

RATTL

RATTL

RATTL

RATTL

ガタガタ

RATTL

SKF

QUR

QUR

HFF
HFF

HAAAH
HAAAH

GASP!

HUFF
HUFF

TREMBL

TREMBL

WHRL

HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF

YOU HAVE MY THANKS.

KA-CHAK

IS HE A STAND USER? DIDN'T SEEM LIKE AN ABILITY, BUT WHAT AM I NOT SEEING?!

WHO THE HECK WAS THAT?! WHAT'S HE DOING IN THAT HOUSE?!

HE JUST MURDERED ONE OF THE RACERS! GAUCHO IS DEAD! THIS IS TERRIBLE!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

WE CAN'T STAY HERE FOREVER.

COME ON, JOHNNY.

...

BA-DADUM

IF YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED, LEAVE US OUT.

BUT IF YOU ASK ME? HE'S THE ONE WHO KILLED YOUR COW.

YOU KNOW WHAT? THIS DOESN'T HAVE JACK ALL TO DO WITH US.

A MURDER? NO LAWS WERE BROKEN HERE.

CHAPTER 34:

A Man's World, Part 2

GO
ゴゴゴ
GO
ゴゴ
GO
ゴゴゴ
GO
ゴゴゴ
GO
ゴゴ
GO
ゴゴゴ
GO
ゴゴ
GO
ゴゴゴ
GO

FIRST, WE'LL GO STRAIGHT DOWN THIS PATH FROM THE HOUSE AND TURN *LEFT* AT THE CORNER.

THEN AT THE END, WE'LL TURN *LEFT* AGAIN.

AND LASTLY, WE'LL TURN *RIGHT.*

INSTEAD, WE'RE GONNA MARK A TREE WHEREVER WE MAKE A TURN.

THAT WILL TELL US EXACTLY WHERE WE'RE GETTING TURNED AROUND IN THIS ORCHARD.

WE JUST HAVE TO LOOK FOR THE MARKERS.

SKF

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

CLOP

KA-CLOP

...

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

CLOP

CLOP

KA-CLOP

...

...

CLOP

DOOM

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

CLOP CLOP KA-KA-CLOP

THIS IS THE TREE.

THE ONE WITH THE ARROW...

I...I ALREADY FOUND IT.

WHERE'S THE ARROW, JOHNNY? WE'VE GOT TO MOVE!

FOLLOW THE ARROWS ON THE TREES! WE'VE ALREADY LOST TWO HOURS TO THIS CRAP.

ALL RIGHT, JOHNNY! WE'RE GONNA DO THIS ONE MORE TIME!

THIS TIME, WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!

THIS IS IT!

...

...

I'M SURE THAT WHEN WE TURNED HERE, I ONLY MARKED THIS *ONE* TREE.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

I JUST DON'T GET IT.

BUT I DON'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEING HERE...

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

THIS IS THE ONLY TREE I CARVED!

GO

GO

GO

THIS IS A *STAND ATTACK.*

IT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION, ISN'T IT? THIS IS AN ATTACK, AND WE'VE BEEN SUFFERING IT FOR HOURS NOW.

THE MAN IN THAT HOUSE MUST BE RESPON-SIBLE.

WHY DID HE DUEL GAUCHO ?

IF HE REALLY IS BEHIND THIS, WHAT DOES HE GAIN BY SENDING US IN CIRCLES?

AND WHAT EXACTLY IS HIS MOTIVE, HUH?

...

IF YOU WANT TO GO, THEN GO. I'LL BE HERE WHEN YOU GET BACK. I'M DONE CHASING MY TAIL.

SO WHAT WOULD YOU PROPOSE WE DO, GYRO ZEPPELI?

...

YOU WANT TO KEEP WANDERING AROUND?

HOW MANY MORE LOOPS WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE, HM?

AND WHEN WE DO...

...THEN WE'LL KILL HIM, ***THREE AGAINST ONE.*** DO WE ALL AGREE ON THAT?

IF, AND ONLY IF, WE FIND OUT THAT HE'S OUR ENEMY...

HE SAID, "IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE THIS PLACE, YOU'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT ME."

RIGHT?

NO...

HE SAID, "YOU'LL HAVE TO *KILL* ME."

WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT WAS ABOUT? IF YOU ASK ME, IT'S HIGH TIME WE GOT SOME ANSWERS FROM THAT MAN.

...

THAT MAN SAID SOMETHING TO GAUCHO.

I THOUGHT I MADE IT CLEAR THAT I DON'T TRUST YOU.

...

...

GAUCHO IS DEAD.

WE NEED TO SETTLE THIS MATTER AT MINIMUM RISK TO OURSELVES. IF WE'RE GOING TO KILL HIM, WE DO IT TOGETHER.

WE'RE PAST WORRYING ABOUT WHAT'S FAIR.

THAT'S THE LAST THING WE CAN AFFORD.

GYRO.

IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING, WE'LL BE STUCK HERE UNTIL NIGHTFALL.

DIO WILL REACH KANSAS CITY BEFORE WE DO.

AND THAT'S ONE THING I WON'T STAND FOR.

I DON'T CARE WHO ELSE GETS THERE FIRST! ANYONE BUT HIM!

I WON'T!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE DIO IS RIGHT NOW, BUT IF WE SPEND THE NIGHT HERE, HE'LL HAVE AT LEAST A FULL DAY'S LEAD ON US.

DIO

DON'T YOU, GYRO?!

WE NEED TO PLAY THIS AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE SO WE CAN GET OUT OF HERE!

AND I DEFINITELY WON'T STAND FOR LETTING HIM GET THE NEXT PART OF THE **CORPSE!** NOT HIM, NOT THE TERRORISTS, AND NOT ANYONE ELSE FOR THAT MATTER! YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY, DON'T YOU?

YOU'RE GOING TO JUST WALK UP BEHIND HIM?

YOU TWO WILL DO THE TALKING.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO DO IT.

LISTEN, ONCE WE KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT HE'S BEHIND THIS...

WHILE HE'S DISTRACTED, I'LL COME UP ON HIM FROM BEHIND.

...WE'LL TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE.

ARE WE AGREED?

THEN WE KILL HIM, THREE AGAINST ONE.

HE'S NOT SOME SLEEPING HOUSE CAT YOU CAN JUST SNEAK UP ON.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN DO THAT?

FSSSSH

KILL

VWM

AH!

WHOA!

VWOOOOOM

FSSSSS

WSSSSSSSH

FWP

WHM

SPLAT

WRIGGL

WRIGGL

WRIGGL

YOU TWO GO AND TALK TO THE MAN. LET'S SETTLE THIS AND GET OUT OF HERE.

THAT'S *CREAM STARTER.* MY HAND WILL BE BEHIND HIM.

...

SHOOP

SHF

SHF

SHF

SHUNK

SHF

SHF

WHAT ARE YOU AFTER, HUH?

WHY DID YOU KILL GAUCHO?

WHO ARE YOU?

...

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

SHFL ズル…

チラッ GLANCE

...

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

...

GLANCE

チラ

LOOK, PAL.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT GAME YOU'RE PLAYING, BUT IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH US.

JUST ANSWER MY QUESTIONS.

IF ONE OF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND AS TO MOVE BACK TO WHERE THAT OTHER GENTLEMAN IS STANDING.

I'D PREFER TO SPEAK WITH YOU...

...ONE AT A TIME.

GO

GO

GO

SO GO ON AND MOVE BACK.

BUT THE MAN ON YOUR RIGHT HAS A CHANCE.

IF I'M GONNA HAVE THIS CHAT WITH EITHER OF YOU, IT'S *HIM.*

...YOU'D HAVE NO HOPE OF BEATING ME.

IF YOU AND I WERE TO DUEL HERE AND NOW...

THEN, AS IT STANDS...

...

...

YOU SEE, THE OTHER MAN HAS A ***DARK DETERMINATION*** IN HIS HEART. HE'LL KILL ME WHEN THE TIME COMES.

OR MAYBE I SHOULD EXPLAIN FIRST, HM?

I'M ONLY SAYING THIS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD. STEP BACK.

BUT YOU WON'T. IT'S NOT YOUR NATURE.

THAT'S WHY I'M TELLIN' YOU TO STEP BACK.

IF YOU LACK THE INITIATIVE TO MAKE THE FIRST MOVE, THEN YOU ARE OF NO USE TO ME.

BUT DESPITE YOUR EXEMPLARY SKILLS, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO KILL ME THROUGH ***JUSTIFIABLE SELF-DEFENSE.***

IT'S ***HARD-WIRED*** INTO THE VERY FIBER OF YOUR BEING.

DON'T GET ME WRONG. YOU'RE WELL PREPARED TO ***REACT*** TO ANY MOVE I SHOULD MAKE.

HE'S...!

THIS MAN...!

...

ゾ

SNAP

キ

ッ

BANG

BANG

BANG

SKRUNCH

...

WHMMM

AH!

THREE YEARS AGO, I GAINED A STAND ABILITY IN THE DESERT.

MY NAME IS *RINGO ROAD-AGAIN.*

I CALL IT *MANDO.*

JUST SOME-THING YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF.

WHSSS

SSSH

GAH...!

I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT INTRODUCING MYSELF. ALLOW ME TO RECTIFY THAT.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

ARE YOU ONE OF THE *TERROR-ISTS?* ARE YOU WORKING WITH THE GOVERN-MENT?

WHAT...

...JUST HAPPENED?

CAN I NOT LAND MY THROWS? WHY DIDN'T I HAVE THE **CONFI-DENCE** TO HIT HIM WHERE IT COUNTS ?!

MY STEEL BALL...

...JUST MISSED THE TARGET BY A HAIR.

HUFF

HUFF

I DON'T UNDER-STAND...

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

FOR JUST *SIX SECONDS...*

MANDO

NO MORE, NO LESS...

FOR PRECISELY *SIX SECONDS,* I CAN TURN BACK TIME.

THAT IS MY ABILITY.

YOU MARKED THE TREE YOU WERE AT *SIX SECONDS EARLIER* THAN THE ONE YOU MEANT TO...

...AND YOU TURNED *THERE* INSTEAD.

Distance traveled in six seconds

Sent back here to turn at the wrong place

GO GO GO GO GO

SO EVERY TIME YOU MADE A TURN, YOU WERE ACTUALLY TAKING THE PATH *BEFORE* THE ONE YOU INTENDED.

AND SINCE YOU CAN'T TELL ONE PART OF THE ORCHARD FROM ANOTHER, NOT EVEN MARKING THE TREES COULD HELP YOU.

Planned turn

Distance traveled in six seconds

GO GO GO GO

GO

BY SIX SHORT SECONDS ...

WHILE YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING AROUND ON YOUR HORSES... I'VE BEEN TURNING BACK TIME BY THE SMALLEST BIT...

GO

...AND YOU NEVER EVEN NOTICED.

GO

GO GO

BUT YOU STILL *REMEMBERED* HAVING RIDDEN TO WHERE YOU WANTED TO BE.

AS LONG AS I LET AT LEAST SIX SECONDS PASS, I CAN TURN BACK TIME AGAIN AND AGAIN.

AND NOT JUST ONCE, EITHER.

GO GO

GO GO

THAT'S WHY YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS ORCHARD.

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

I WANT YOU TO TRY TO KILL ME.

A FAIR DUEL WILL PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY I NEED TO GROW AS A MAN.

A CLEAN, HONORABLE KILL AS A RESULT OF *DARK DETER-MINATION*...

WHAT DO YOU GAIN FROM TURNING US AROUND IN HERE ?

WHAT DO YOU WANT?!

I'M MUCH OBLIGED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.

WHAT WILL YOU DO? THE DECISION IS YOURS.

...WILL LIFT UP THIS UNFINISHED MAN TO SACRED HEIGHTS.

THERE IS MUCH I MUST YET OVERCOME.

DIVINITY COMES FROM *TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS.*

AND SO I SPEAK TO YOU FRANKLY AND OPENLY. EVERYTHING I'VE TOLD YOU, INCLUDING MY ABILITY AND MY MOTIVES, IS THE TRUTH.

BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE VALUES THESE DAYS ARE SHIFTING MORE AND MORE TOWARD ***SPOILED DEPENDENCE.***

A WORLD YOU MIGHT DESCRIBE AS IMMORAL, YES?

THIS IS ***A MAN'S WORLD.***

IS HE REALLY TELLING THE TRUTH? OR IS THIS A JOKE?

HE'S OUT OF HIS MIND.

GLANCE

DON'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME ON HIM.

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS.

WHRL

IF WE GO SLOW ENOUGH, WE WON'T LOSE OUR WAY!

THE MAN IS CLEARLY INSANE.

OH, PLEASE! LET'S GO, GYRO! JOHNNY!

WSH

WSH

FSSSSSSH

SPWATCH

PLOP

THUD

AUGH...

...

N... NGH...

THE REST IS UP TO YOU! DON'T LET HIM PICK UP HIS GUN!

NOW, GYRO! JOHNNY!

TAKE HIM DOWN!

...

DON'T LET HIM GET THAT GUN!!

FWSH

BANG

BANG

BANG

VWM

VWM

VWM

VWOOOOOOM

...

...

60

5

DON'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME ON...

I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS!

WHRL

HUH ?!

WHRL

WSH

VWOOOSH

I'M SURE I SLICED OFF HIS ARM WITH MY SPRAY!

HOW CAN IT?!

IT CAN'T BE!

SPSSSH

I COULDA SWORN ...

WHAT IS THIS ?!

WHAT...?

SIX SECONDS.

I CAN TURN BACK TIME FOR SIX SECONDS.

I WAS HONEST WITH YOU. I TOLD YOU, FAIR AND SQUARE.

I TWIST THE KNOB ON MY WATCH TO WIND IT BACK JUST THAT AMOUNT.

AND SIMPLE AS THAT, *MANDO* ACTIVATES.

YOU WILL NEVER LEAVE THIS PLACE UNLESS YOU KILL ME!

I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN...

WHAT IS YOUR DECISION?

ボゴ GWSH

BANG

AAA AAA UGH!

ドドドド

ドドドド

ドドドド

ドドドド

ドドドド

BANG

FLIP

FLIP

...

WHAT ...?

SHUNK

ドロ ドロ

SKSH

ハンパ ネー

SKSH

ズ

ODD

FWIP

BANG

BANG

THUK

THUK

BANG

WHA
...?

SKRSH
SKRSH
SKRSH
WHAM
NO...
NO!
DO
DO
DO
DO

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ…

KRSH

ドゴ

ドゴ

PUUM

ドゴ

PUUM

ドゴ

WOOOOM

ドゴ

WSSH

ゴオア

ドオ

DOOM

ドドドドドド

DO

DO

DO

DO

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

SHUNK

ドオ

ドオ

ドオ

ドオ

ドオ

URGH!

SHUNK

ズズ

SKSSSH

ドオオオ

ドドドド

ドドドド

ドドドド

...

GYRO ZEPPELI, WAS IT?

I KNEW IT... I WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU.

A DIS-GUSTING ACT!

YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO KILL ME LIKE THAT!

YOU REACTED ON PURE *IMPULSE!*

YOU THREW THAT BALL BECAUSE YOU LOST YOUR FRIEND!

YOU THREW AT ME FROM OUTSIDE YOUR RANGE!

AH...

KOFF!

NGH ...

KAFF!

URGH...

BUT I ONLY KILL THOSE WHO COME TO SNUFF ME OUT WITH *DARK DETERMINATION.*

MY REVOLVER STILL HAS ONE BULLET LEFT.

I DON'T BOTHER WITH THE LIKES OF YOU. GET OUT OF MY SIGHT.

I WON'T KEEP YOU IN THE ORCHARD ANY LONGER.

ドド

ドドド

JOHNNY...

J...

TMP

BUT I ALSO OWE A DEBT TO THE MAN WHO SAW MY POTENTIAL AS A STAND USER AND SENT ME TO THIS PLACE.

SO FOR HIM, I'LL TAKE THE ***CORPSE PART*** THAT'S SUPPOSEDLY IN JOESTAR'S ARM.

MY ONLY GOAL IS TO BETTER MYSELF.

TO NOURISH MY OWN EXISTENTIAL ENLIGHTEN-MENT.

...

CLATCH

NGH...

AH...

KOFF

KAFF!

SKF

SKF

SKF

I THANK YOU.

ドドド

ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
PLOP
KRAK
KRAK
THAT BASTARD...
THERE'S NO MISTAK-ING IT...
DID HE DO IT ON PUR-POSE?
HIS GUN IS A COLT 1874.
ITS RANGE...
...MATCHES THE DISTANCE THIS STEEL BALL JUST ROLLED...
OR WAS IT JUST A COINCI-DENCE?

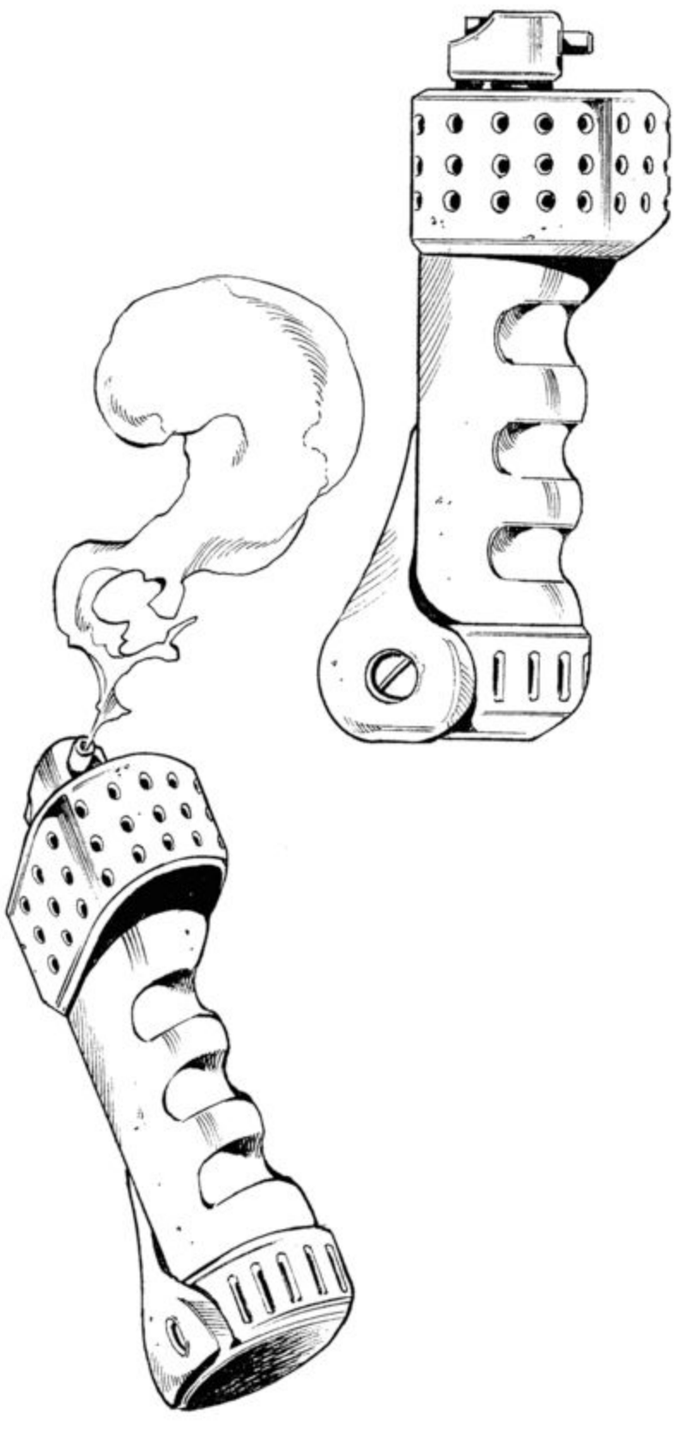
JOHNNY IS STILL ALIVE.

THE BULLET COULDN'T HAVE REACHED HIS BRAIN AT THAT DISTANCE. IT'S STILL LODGED IN HIS SKULL.

...WHICH IS ONE STEP SHORT OF WHERE HE SHOT JOHNNY.

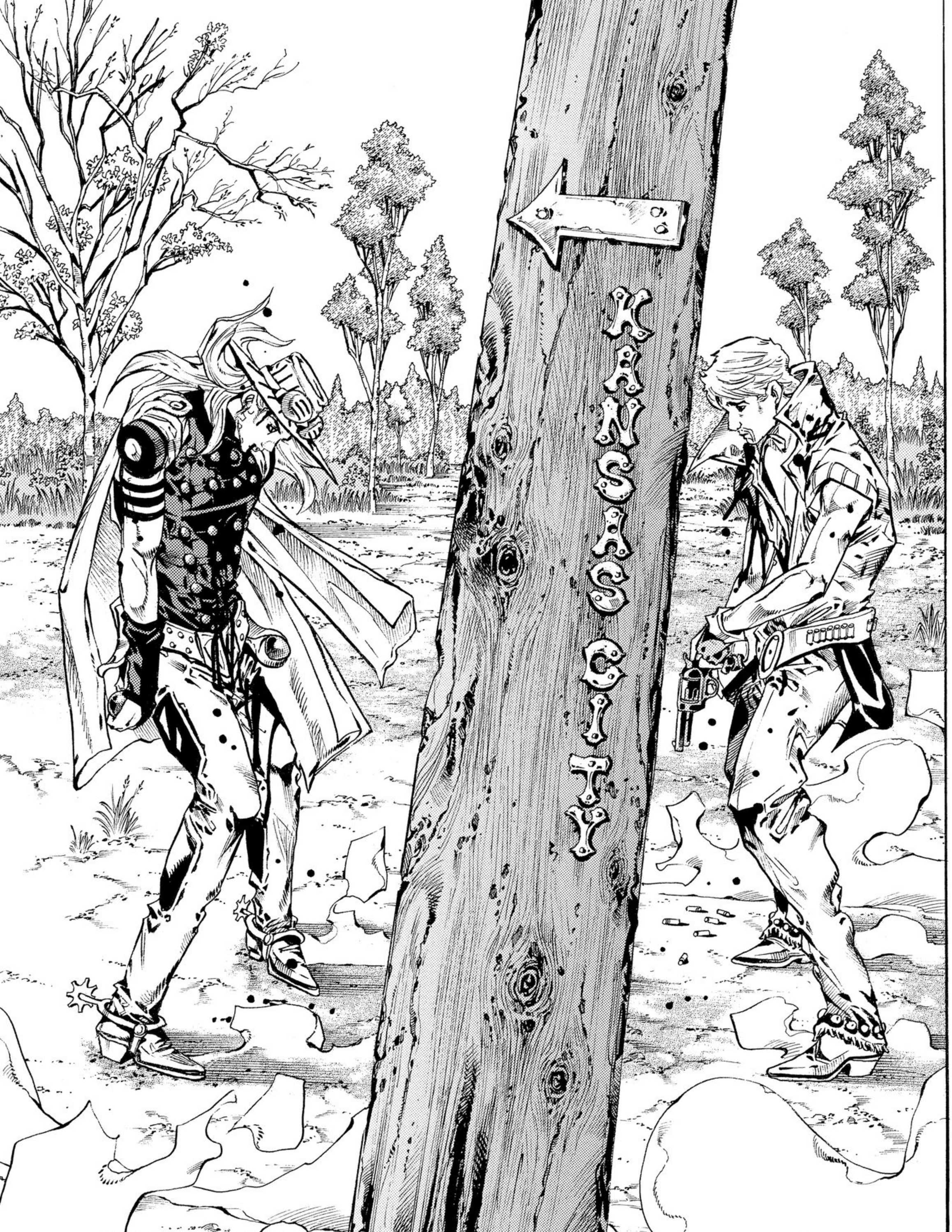
DOOM

Hot Pants



Stand:
Cream Starter

Cream Starter turns flesh into a cream-like state and sprays it out from its nozzle. If Hot Pants uses the spray while in physical contact with another person's body, Cream Starter will take away that person's flesh.



CHAPTER 35:

A Man's World, Part 3

HE WAS LATER CAUGHT AND SENT TO A PRISON, WHERE HE DIED OF DISEASE.

RINGO WAS BORN WITH TENDER SKIN THAT WOULD TEAR AND BLEED AT THE SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION.

HE WAS OFTEN CONFINED TO BED AND NEVER ONCE ATTENDED SCHOOL.

NO MATTER HOW MANY DOCTORS HIS MOTHER ASKED, NONE COULD EXPLAIN THE CAUSE OF HIS MALADY. SOMETIMES, HE SCRAPED HIS ELBOWS WHILE HE WAS ONLY SLEEPING. A SIMPLE CUT INSIDE HIS MOUTH WOULD NEARLY DROWN HIM.

RINGO LIVED WITH HIS MOTHER AND TWO OLDER SISTERS. THE NOW FATHERLESS FAMILY WAS IMPOVERISHED AND BRANDED AS TRAITORS.

UNWELCOME ON THE LAND WHERE THEY HAD LIVED THEIR WHOLE LIVES, THEY WERE FORCED TO ROAM FROM PLACE TO PLACE.

WHEN RINGO ROADAGAIN WAS A SMALL CHILD...

...HIS FATHER, A FARMER, WAS CONSCRIPTED AND SENT OFF TO WAR.

FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO RINGO, HIS FATHER FLED THE BATTLEFIELD.

THEN, WHEN HE WAS TEN YEARS OLD, RINGO WOKE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

IN THE FAINT LIGHT, HE SAW A LARGE STRANGER IN A MILITARY UNIFORM STANDING OVER HIM.

THE MAN SMELLED ODD. HE WAS EATING A RAW POTATO OUT OF HIS HAND WITH THE EMPTY-HEADED EXPRESSION OF A COW.

AND HERE I THOUGHT THIS HOUSE DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING WORTH JACK.

BEEN SO LONG, I'D AL-MOST FORGOT-TEN...

...THE FEEL OF SUCH BEAUTIFUL SKIN.

DON'T FUSS.

WITH HIS FREE HAND, THE MAN SQUEEZED RINGO'S THROAT.

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

AH...

AH...

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

AAAH...

AA
AH
...

GO

GO

GO

GO

HAAH

AAAH...

HUUH
HAAH

HAAH

AAAH...

SLRP

SLRP

SLRP

SLRP

SLRP

BEAUTIFUL!

SO DAMN BEAUTIFUL! MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN I'VE EVER DREAMED OF...!

WSH

WHOA!

ガタ QUR

ガタ QUR

HFF HFF

ガタ QUR

ガタ QUR

...

HAAH...
HAAH...

QUR

QUR

QUR

QUR

HAAH...
HAAH...

QUR

KUH!

AHH...
AAAH...

KAFF!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

CALM DOWN, NOW.

YOU COULD HURT SOMEBODY WITH THAT.

HEY.

QUR

QUR

QUR

QUR

QUR

HAAH
HAAH

HAAH

HAA
AAH

...

HAAH... HAAH...

KUH!

KAFF! KAFF!

IT WAS REALLY SOMETHIN'! BUT I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND.

PULLING SOMEONE ELSE'S GUN IS SOMETHING ONLY A NAUGHTY BOY WOULD DO. GUNS AREN'T TOYS, Y'KNOW.

Y'KNOW WHAT, KID?

THAT WAS A NEAT TRICK, STEALING MY GUN.

C'MON, THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOIN'. TRY TO IMAGINE THE KIND OF IMPACT THE RECOIL WILL HAVE IF YOU SHOOT ME.

YOU'LL HAVE SO MUCH BLOOD COMIN' OUT YOUR NOSE, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GROW UP BIG AND STRONG.

AND HEY, I'M NOT MAD NOW, BUT I WILL BE!

YOUR NOSE IS BLEEIN' SOMETHIN' FIERCE.

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? WHAT ARE YOU, SICK? THAT SURE IS A LOT OF BLOOD.

I'LL GO GENTLE ON YOU, ALL RIGHT? SO SET IT DOWN!

I'LL EVEN RAISE YOU AS MY OWN SON. JUST PUT THE GUN UNDER THE BED!

LOOK, I'M AN ARMY MAN, SO I CAN SEE IT PLAIN AS DAY.

YOU'RE A GOOD BOY. YOU WON'T SHOOT ME. SO PUT THE GUN DOWN.

IF YOU SHOOT ME, I'LL LOSE MY WHOLE TEMPER! YOU'LL PAY FOR IT, TOO. BEFORE I KILL YOU...

...I'LL CUT OFF YOUR MOM'S ARMS AND LEGS! YOUR SISTERS' TOO! AND I'LL FEED 'EM TO THE HOGS!

HAAH

HAAH HAAH

HAAH

KUH!

KAFF!!

KAFF!

KAFF! KAFF! KAFF!

KAFF!!

KAFF!!
KUH!!

WHM

FWIP

ドドド

ドドド

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

...

LISTEN TO YOUR FATHER, GYRO.

YOU MUSTN'T GO INTO THAT HOUSE.

IF YOU GO INSIDE, YOU'LL LOSE.

SURELY YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF GOING INTO THAT HOUSE...

...TO SAVE JOHNNY JOESTAR.

SON...

YOU CAN'T BEAT HIM.

DEEP DOWN, YOU MUST KNOW IT'S TRUE.

FA-THER ...

...

YOUR FOOLISH **SENTIMENTAL ATTACHMENTS** WILL BRING OUR FAMILY AND THE STEEL BALL TECHNIQUES YOU'VE INHERITED TO RUINATION!

EMOTIONS SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS OF THE HEART AND CREATE INNER TURMOIL.

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO GO TO THAT HOUSE?

SENTI-MENTALITY. AND THAT'S WHY YOU'LL LOSE.

YOU WANT TO RESCUE YOUR FRIEND OUT OF **BLIND SENTIMENT.**

YOU HAVE NO NEED FOR VICTORY!

THE **STEEL BALLS** EXIST ONLY TO SERVE OUR KING! THEIR TECHNIQUES ARE NOT FOR FIGHTING!

YOU MUST NOT GO!

IT IS AS I HAVE TOLD YOU! WHETHER THE ONE CONDEMNED IS A CHILD OR AN INNOCENT OF ANY KIND, YOU MUST NEVER LET **EMOTIONS** GET THE BEST OF YOU!

DO

DO

DO

DO

WALK AWAY FROM THIS PLACE. LEAVE THE ORCHARD!

WITH-DRAW FROM THIS RACE IMMEDI-ATELY!

THIS I COMMAND YOU! YOU ARE THE ELDEST ZEPPELI SON!

I SEE MY *VICTORY!*

I CAN SEE IT NOW! DO YOU HEAR ME, FATHER?!

THAT'S WHY I ENTERED THE STEEL BALL RUN!

JUSTICE SHOULD COME BEFORE ALL ELSE, SHOULDN'T IT?!

ALL I WANT IS TO UNDER-SAND!

WHY SHOULD MARCO HAVE TO BE EXECUTED, HUH?!

WHO DOES THAT CORPSE JOHNNY'S AFTER REALLY BELONG TO?!

IF I CAN'T ACCEPT WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO DO, THEN I CAN'T GO ON! I CAN'T TAKE THE PATH TOWARD MY FUTURE! I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN LOOKING FOR A WAY FORWARD!

YOU SAY I'M BEING *SENTI-MENTAL...*

...BUT I'M NOT.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, FATHER...

AND THAT BASTARD SAID THE SAME THING. THAT I'M ONLY CAPABLE OF *REACTING ON IMPULSE?*

WHO THE HELL DOES HE THINK HE IS?

WSSH

ドン

WHMMM

ドドドド

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

WHRR

VWOOM

ORA AAA!

I'M GOING TO CORNER YOU INTO A LITTLE GAME OF CHESS, SO TO SPEAK.

SSS

BUT YOU LISTEN HERE, RINGO ROADAGAIN.

FROM THIS POINT FORWARD, NEITHER OF US CAN BACK DOWN.

SSS

SSH

THE FIRST PERSON TO MAKE A WRONG MOVE WILL LOSE, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE YOU OR I DECIDE!

NO MATTER HOW WE TRY TO FIGHT IT!

SSS

JOHNNY IS STILL BREATHING...

AND THAT'S HIS MAP FOR KANSAS CITY!

RINGO'S SEEN THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT CORPSE PART!

KANSAS CIT

SSH

KANSAS CITY

TURBO

WSSSSS

WJHER

WJHER

SKZAAAAAAAK

ドドド

ORAAAA AAAAA!!

ドドド

PINCH

15

30

45

15

W55555

YOU'RE STILL HERE?

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO LEAVE.

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO HERE.

...

WHIRL

SSSH

...

DOOOOOM

I'M ALLOWING YOU TO LEAVE THIS ORCHARD ALONE. NOW GO!

MY *EMPLOYER* WOULD LIKELY HAVE ME DISPOSE OF YOU ALONG WITH YOUR FRIEND, BUT DOING SO WOULD HAVE NO VALUE TO ME.

I CAN TURN BACK TIME *SIX SECONDS,* AND I CAN DO IT AS MANY TIMES AS I WISH!

YOU SAID THAT YOU HAVE TO TWIST THAT KNOB ON YOUR WATCH TO TURN BACK TIME SIX SECONDS.

THAT LAST THROW WAS JUST SO I COULD GET A REAL CLOSE LOOK AT HOW YOU TICK.

Y'KNOW, IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY THAT TONE OF YOURS IS A LITTLE CONDE-SCENDING!

TMP

TMP

TMP

AFTER ALL, DON'T YOU HAVE A RACE TO GET BACK TO?

...

I'M ONLY TELLING YOU THIS TO BE FAIR.

WHEN I USED MY STEEL BALL'S *SCAN* ABILITY, I FOUND AN OLD INJURY IN YOUR LEFT COLLARBONE.

AN IMPACT AT THAT SPOT...

AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE MY NEXT THROW IS GOING TO GO!

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

YOU'LL HAVE NO WAY OF TWISTING THAT WATCH DIAL ON YOUR RIGHT ARM.

...

...IS GUARANTEED TO PARALYZE THE LEFT HALF OF YOUR BODY.

YOUR LEFT ARM AND LEFT LEG WILL BE IMMOBILIZED. EVEN YOUR LEFT EYELID WILL FALL SHUT.

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK.

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TURN BACK TIME SIX SECONDS EVEN IF YOU WANT TO.

...

THE PARALYSIS WILL EVEN REACH YOUR HEART IN THE LEFT SIDE OF YOUR CHEST AND STOP IT FROM BEATING.

WHAAAM

ドゴ

CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
CLATTR
THMP
THMP
THMP

AND NOW THAT WE'RE THIS CLOSE TO EACH OTHER...

...NEITHER OF US CAN MISS.

...

GO

GO

GO

GO

GO

...NO MATTER WHAT ELSE WE DECIDE.

THERE'S NO BACKING DOWN NOW...

WHAT'S YOUR MOVE?

ドドド

FWSH

FWSH

ドゴ

ゴロ

UHHHH

SKSSSSSH

SHUK

HE... HE HIT ME!

TREMBL

TREMBL

TREMBL

TREMBL

MY HEART... MY LEFT ARM...

FREEZ

SLUMP

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

TREMBL

TREMBL

TREMBL

GAKK! UNGH! MY ARM!

TIK

TIK

KOFF!

GRAA AAAA AAH!!

FWIP

WHRL

15

45

30

IT WAS A CLEAN SHOT... FOR BOTH OF US!

DAMN YOU, GYRO ZEPPELI...!

NGH... MY SIX SECONDS ARE ALMOST UP...!

60

TIK

TIK

15

30

PWING

60

54

ZWMM

BANG

カアン

ニイ

DOOOOOM

トオ

THAT'S NOT FOR YOU TO DECIDE! WE'RE BOTH GOING TO SEE THIS THROUGH TO THE END!

ドドド

BANG

ドガ

FWIP

バ

WOOOSH

ヒュ

ヒュ

ZWANG

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

SHRK

KRSSSH

CLATTR

CLATTR

CLATTR

GAH!

KAFF

WHM

GURGH !!

...

DRIP DRIP

CRUSH

NOW I'M GOING TO SHOOT YOU AGAIN, GYRO!

KA-CHAK

I WIN!!!

YOU USED YOUR LEFT ARM.

...

YOU LISTENING, RINGO ROADAGAIN?

A SPLINTERED PIECE OF WOOD...!?

BUT... HOW ...?

SLUMP

YOU THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE ME DEAD TO RIGHTS WITH YOUR *SECOND SHOT.*

YOU SHIELDED YOUR COLLAR-BONE...

...WITH YOUR *LEFT ARM.*

...YOUR AIM COULDN'T BE AS GOOD, AND YOUR FIRST SHOT STRUCK ME IN THE SHOULDER INSTEAD.

YOU HAD SET YOURSELF UP TO FINISH ME OFF WITH YOUR NEXT SHOT.

BUT BECAUSE YOU CHOSE TO DEFEND YOURSELF...

THWUMP

CLATTR

CLATTR
CLATTR

ドドドド

DO
DO
DO
DO

THE WOODEN SPLINTERS...

THEY WERE SCATTERED ALL THROUGH THE AIR.

YOU MEMORIZED THEM IN THE FIRST SIX-SECOND TIME LAPSE AND USED YOUR STEEL BALL TO STRIKE ME WITH ONE.

I MADE...

MAGNIF-ICENT.

GYRO ZEPPELI.

...THE WRONG MOVE.

...

ドドド

DO
DO
DO

YOU WON'T GET ANY MORE SHOTS. LEAVE THE GUN ON THE FLOOR.

DON'T DO IT.

DON'T TRY ANY-THING.

BLAM

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, JUSTICE IS DONE. KILLING YOU WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE.

IF YOU HADN'T DEFENDED YOURSELF, YOU COULD HAVE SHOT ME DEAD WITHOUT A DOUBT.

WOULD'VE HAD ME IN A SNAP.

BLAM

BUT THEN WE'D BOTH BE FATALLY WOUNDED LIKE LAST TIME. I'D GO BACK SIX SECONDS AGAIN...

...AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN. WE'D NEVER REACH THE END.

BLAM

SHFL

BUT NOW THOSE SIX SECONDS HAVE PASSED, I BELIEVE.

FIND THE *SHINING PATH* THAT ALL MEN MUST WALK.

IT'S JUST AS I'VE BEEN SAYING—YOU STILL LACK *INITIATIVE.* YOU MUST FIND THE LIGHT...

ドゴ

オオオオ

VWOOOOOM

I PRAY YOU'LL FIND IT.

AND I THANK YOU.

THE TWO USED TO BE IN AGREEMENT, BUT NOWADAYS THEY AREN'T ALWAYS ONE AND THE SAME.

THERE ARE *SOCIETY'S VALUES,* AND THERE ARE *A MAN'S VALUES.*

THE VALUES OF MEN AND SOCIETY HAVE DIVERGED BY FAR. BUT TO FOLLOW THE PATH TO TRUE VICTORY, YOU MUST HAVE A TRUE MAN'S VALUES. YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT NOW.

CONTINUE THE RACE AND SEE IT FOR YOURSELF... *THE SHINING PATH.*

FWIP

WHER

WHER

WHER

Stand Name: Mando

Mando can turn back time for six seconds. Ringo Roadagain's wristwatch is just a psychological trigger for Mando's power.

CHAPTER 36:

The Green Gravestone, Part 1

Kansas City
Mississippi River
Fourth Stage
Third Stage
Second Stage
First Stage

Distance: Approx. 775 miles
Participants: 1,918
Fourth-Stage Retirements: 825
Points Leader: Diego Brando (190 points)

Fourth Stage, Day 20
A full day's ride from the Kansas City Finish Line
(Two hours before sundown)

BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM
BA-DADUM

FSSSSSSH

ナイト

ハウル

NMM...

BURBL

NGH...

...

...

...

...

FOUR.

BUT I'M ONLY GONNA DO IT ONCE, SO PAY ATTENTION.

JUST ONCE, GOT IT? LOOK AT MY HAND. HOW MANY FINGERS AM I HOLDING UP?

AN ORIGINAL CREATION BY YOURS TRULY.

...

HEY, HOW'S YOUR HEAD FEEL?

LISTEN, I CAME UP WITH A LITTLE JOKE JUST NOW.

SWSH

HOW...

...FOR-TU-NAUGHT!

RIGHT? IT GROWS ON YOU, TOO.

ABSOLUTELY HILARIOUS.

OH, SURE. REAL FUNNY...

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

YOU CAN STEAL IT IF YOU LIKE.

NAUGHT (ZERO)

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! I SPRAYED HOT PANTS'S WOUNDS TOO, AND I DON'T WANNA BE AROUND WHEN HE WAKES UP.

ALL RIGHT, JOHNNY.

HEY, HORSEY. HOW FOR-TU-NAUGHT! GET IT?

I DOUBT ANY PART OF YOU WANTS TO QUIT...

BUT WE CAN'T QUIT THE RACE NOW. WE'RE PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

PROBABLY. I GET CHILLS JUST THINKING ABOUT IT.

...BUT EVEN IF YOU DID, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE AFTER YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

IS EVERYONE WE GO UP AGAINST FROM NOW ON GOING TO BE LIKE HIM...?

FACING SOMEONE LIKE THAT WAS TERRI-FYING.

YEAH. FOR SOME REASON, I DO TOO. LET'S GET TO KANSAS CITY. IN FIRST PLACE, OF COURSE.

I NEED TO ASK THE VATICAN FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS CORPSE. WHO WAS THAT SAINT?

YOU'RE RIGHT. I DON'T WANT TO QUIT.

IF ANYTHING, I FEEL MORE MOTIVATED THAN EVER.

OR MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST EAT THE MEAT AND LEAVE THE BREAD BEHIND TO PISS HIM OFF EVEN MORE!

WE CAN EAT ALL OF 'EM OURSELVES!

THAT WAY THERE WON'T BE ANY EVIDENCE LEFT FOR HIM TO HANG US WITH!

RUSTL

RUSTL

OH!

WHY THAT LITTLE PACK RAT! HIS BAGS ARE LOADED! LET'S NAB ALL THE ROAST BEEF SANDWICHES!

HO HO HO!

NYO!

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S...

YOU SURE HE'S STILL ALIVE?

FWIP

WHOA!

...

SPLSH

SPLSH

SPLSH

NO WAY!

DID I JUST ...?!

GO GO GO GO

OOUH...

WHO-EVER HOT PANTS IS, IT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS.

WHO-EVER HE... NO, NOT HE...

NOT THAT IT MATTERS, THOUGH.

WELL I'LL BE DAMNED.

THAT CREAMY BASTARD HAS MORE THAN US!

REMEMBER THE POINT TOTALS!

HURRY IT UP, JOHNNY!

CLOP CLOP

I'M NOT TOO WORRIED ABOUT BEING SEEN...

LET'S MOVE UNDER TREE COVER WHEN WE CAN.

AND WHEN YOU TALK, COVER YOUR MOUTH WITH YOUR HAND.

...BUT I DON'T WANT THOSE BALLOONS FOLLOWING US.

THEY TRAIN RECRUITS TO READ LIPS IN THE ARMY, YOU KNOW. THERE'S NOTHING EXTRAORDINARY ABOUT IT. AND SINCE STEEL IS PROBABLY ANOTHER GOVERNMENT PAWN, HE'S BOUND TO HAVE THOSE BALLOONS PACKED WITH LIP-READERS

LIP-READING.

DON'T LET THEM READ WHAT WE'RE SAYING FROM THE SKY!

LIKE THIS.

WHAT'S THAT FOR?

THERE'S POCO-LOCO!

AND SAND MAN TOO! WE MUST BE CLOSE TO THE LEADERS!

SPLAAASH

OH! LOOK!

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

WHO'S IN THE LEAD RIGHT NOW?

HAVE YOU SEEN DIO?!

HEY, SAND MAN!

SAND MAN!

ANSWER ME SOME-THING!

I SAW DIO'S TRACKS EARLY THIS MORN-ING.

WELL, AT ANY RATE...

IS DIO THE ONLY ONE YOU CARE ABOUT?

HE'S ABOUT AN HOUR AHEAD OF US. AND YES, HE'S IN THE LEAD. BUT HE'S TAKING A ROUTE WITH FEWER RIVERS.

C'MON, I SEE YOU AND THOSE KNOCK-OUT MUSCLES! DON'T BE STINGY! TELL US ABOUT DIO!

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE RACE!

...

ONE MORE THING YOU SHOULD KNOW...

THERE'S A *BIG STORM* COMING TOMORROW.

THE FINAL STRETCH IS GOING TO BE ROUGH.

A FULL HOUR ?!

THERE'S STILL ONE DAY LEFT. THAT'S NOT AN UNBEATABLE LEAD.

RUSTL

RUSTL

BACK IN THE FIRST STAGE...

...I WAS AWARDED THE VICTORY INSTEAD OF YOU.

I'VE TOLD YOU WHAT I KNOW. NOW WE'RE EVEN.

AND WE'RE NOT JUST LOOKING AT SOME RAIN, BUT "A BIG STORM."

DIO IS REALLY AN HOUR AHEAD OF US.

THE SKIES ARE CLEAR NOW, BUT I TRUST SAND MAN'S WORD.

THAT MEANS NO ONE'S GETTING ANYWHERE BY HORSE TOMORROW.

CHANGE OF PLANS, JOHNNY.

SPLASH

SPLASH

SPLASH

IF THERE'S A STORM TOMORROW, IT'LL BE EASIER ON THE HORSES TO MAKE OUR PUSH NOW.

THEN WE'LL FIND WHATEVER SHELTER WE CAN, WAIT FOR THE STORM TO EASE UP, AND MAKE A BREAK STRAIGHT TO THE FINISH LINE!

IT'S ALMOST NIGHTFALL, BUT WE'LL RIDE AS FAR AS WE CAN TODAY.

TURBO

GOAL

TURBO

AS FOR THE *TURBO* LOCATION...

...WE'LL SNEAK OFF AND RETRIEVE THAT PART OF THE CORPSE *AFTER* WE CROSS THE FINISH!

YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

GYRO.

I'M NOT.

NO.

THAT'S NO GOOD!

THE ONLY WAY FOR HIM TO AVOID THE TRIBUTARIES OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IS TO HEAD *NORTH OF KANSAS CITY.*

THAT MEANS HE WENT *NORTH.*

SAND MAN TOLD US THAT DIO WAS AVOIDING THE RIVERS.

HE'S GOING STRAIGHT FOR THE *CORPSE!*

BA-DADUM

...

BA-DADUM

BA-DADUM

HE'S GOING TO GET THE NEXT PART OF THE CORPSE *BEFORE* HE GOES FOR THE FINISH LINE!

DIO GOT THE LOCATION FROM *HIS* EYE!

GO

GO

GO

TURN

TURBO

...

GO GO GO

...THERE WAS A BIRD-CAGE IN RINGO'S HOUSE!

IT ONLY JUST HIT ME, BUT...

AND THAT'S NOT THE WORST OF IT!

GO GO GO

HE HAD AN *EMPTY BIRD-CAGE* SITTING RIGHT THERE IN HIS HOUSE!

I THOUGHT IT WAS STRANGE AT THE TIME.

GO GO GO

GO

GO GO GO

GO GO GO

I KNOW. I SAW IT TOO.

WHAT'S IT MATTER?

I SHOULD'VE REALIZED WHAT IT MEANT! THE CAGE WAS EMPTY! NO BIRD, NOT EVEN A FEATHER!

IT WOULDN'T MATTER IF THERE WAS STILL A BIRD *INSIDE* IT!

HOW FAR CAN A CARRIER PIGEON FLY?

YOU THINK THAT BEFORE I BUSTED INTO THE HOUSE, RINGO USED A BIRD TO PASS ALONG INFORMATION ABOUT *TURBŌ*.

GO GO GO

YOU'RE SAYING THE GOVERNMENT IS ONTO US?

STAB

GO

GUESS I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST HIM.

GO GO GO

MUCH FASTER!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE SENT THE BIRD...

...BUT THEY'RE FASTER THAN A HORSE!

...

...BUT I HAVE TO GO THERE BEFORE THE FINISH LINE!

IT MIGHT ALREADY BE TOO LATE...

THAT'S IT, GYRO!

I'M GOING THROUGH THE STORM!

GO GO GO

PLIP

PLIP

PLIP

PLIP

I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE HOT-AIR BALLOONS.

GO

GO

GO

ON DAYS WITH FAIR SKIES, THAT IS.

ABOUT 36.

SLIP

HOW MANY BALLOONS DO WE HAVE ABOVE THE RACE?

DESPITE HAVING THAT MANY BALLOONS IN THE AIR, I KEEP GETTING REPORTS THAT THEY HAVE LOST SIGHT OF GYRO ZEPPELI AND JOHNNY JOESTAR.

THEN I HAVE ONE LAST QUESTION.

WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT IS?

AND WHY CAN NO ONE FIND THE PIGEON RINGO SENT FROM THE ORCHARD?

AS A POINT OF PERSONAL CONJECTURE, I SUSPECT STEEL'S UNCOOPER-ATIVENESS IN THESE MATTERS MIGHT BE THE CAUSE.

BUT IT CONTINUES TO SCRATCH AT THE BACK OF MY MIND.

I MAY SIMPLY BE GETTING CAUGHT UP IN THE DETAILS.

HM, PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT.

...I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S POSSIBLE TO KEEP TRACK OF TWO SPECIFIC PEOPLE FROM THE AIR AT ALL TIMES.

SETTING ASIDE RINGO'S PIGEON...

YOU'RE RIGHT.

TYPICALLY, PROMOTERS ONLY DESIRE MONEY AND INFLUENCE.

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT HIM.

I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT IS. PASSION? BOYISH IMMATURITY? WORTHLESS IDEALISM?

WHATEVER THE CASE, IT'S GOTTEN WORSE SINCE MONUMENT VALLEY.

YOU THINK THE PROMOTER WOULD BETRAY US?

I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT. IF HE DID, HE'D LOSE EVERYTHING. HE HAS NO MOTIVE.

PERHAPS HE'S TRYING TO HINDER US. THE RACE BALLOONS BELONG TO HIM, AFTER ALL.

HE'S NOT EXACTLY ESSENTIAL TO THE RACE...

...BUT HE STILL MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR A LITTLE LONGER.

WHAT SHOULD IT BE?

EVEN IF HE HASN'T BETRAYED US YET, I FEEL THAT HE MOST CERTAINLY WILL.

SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO ABOUT HIM, HM?

GO

GO

GO

GO

BUT WHEN HE'S REACHED THE END OF HIS USEFULNESS, I WANT HIM ***REMOVED***.

YES...YOU HAVE A POINT. LET'S LEAVE HIM BE FOR NOW.

WE MUST FIND THE NEXT PART OF THE CORPSE HERE IN KANSAS!

THERE ARE MANY WHO FOLLOW HIM. THE PAPERS, THE LABORERS, THE VOLUNTEERS... IF HE WERE REMOVED, THE RACE WOULD FALL INTO CHAOS.

STEVEN STEEL IS A CHARIS-MATIC MAN.

GO

GO

GO

GO

ACCORDING TO JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA'S MAP, *HIS* SPINE IS HERE!

THE SPINE IS THE VERY CORE OF HIS BODY! THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ALL! AS LONG AS WE HAVE THE SPINE, THE REST WILL FALL INTO PLACE!

THE *SPINE* IS ALMOST WITHIN OUR GRASP!

WE MUST LEAVE NOTHING TO CHANCE!

DO

DO

DO

DO

SUMMON THE STAND USERS TO KANSAS CITY AT ONCE!

ドドド

MADAM?

MRS. STEEL ...?

PARDON ME, MADAM.

THE RACE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE POURING THROUGH THIS CITY IN LESS THAN THREE DAYS!

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH WORK I HAVE TO DO? AND YET HERE I AM, GIVING YOU PRIVATE LESSONS THAT YOU ASKED FOR!

OH!

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME, MRS. STEEL ?!

WHAM

WSH

YOU'RE STARING OUT THE WINDOW NOT LISTENING TO A WORD I SAY!

I'M BUSY TOO, YOU KNOW! AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHRL

HAVE YOU TOLD ANYONE?!

THAT I ASKED YOU TO TEACH ME *LIP-READING?*

WSH

!!"""

E=(i:)

A=(e:

H=(e:

I:(

D

=WSH

!!

...

NO.

OF COURSE I HAVEN'T. I PROMISED NOT TO.

...

?

THIS IS IMPOS-SIBLE!

I CAN'T UNDER-STAND ANY OF IT!

I CAN'T EVEN KEEP MY EYES OPEN ANYMORE!

I QUIT STUDYING.

ALL RIGHT.

...

YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ANYONE? ANYONE AT ALL?!

YOU'VE KEPT IT TO YOUR-SELF, HAVEN'T YOU?

KA-CHACK

...

TAKE YOUR PAYMENT.

YOU MAY LEAVE NOW.

HE'S GOING TO BE SO MAD AT ME FOR BEING SUCH A QUITTER!

AHHH...

AHHH...

AH...

I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE.

...I'M CONTENT WITH LIVING A HUMBLE LIFE.

LUCY...

AS LONG AS I HAVE YOU BY MY SIDE...

WELL, I GUESS IT ALSO FEELS NICE SEEING MY NAME PRINTED IN THE NEWSPAPERS... EVEN IF THE PAPERS ARE JUST THROWN AWAY BY THE NEXT MORNING.

JUST THE BOTTOM CORNER WOULD BE PLENTY.

IN TINY LITTLE LETTERS.

THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME.

AND JUST FOR THAT, I'LL POUR MY HEART AND SOUL INTO THIS RACE.

Promoted by STEVEN STEEL

THEY'RE GOING TO KILL HIM.

FLAP FLAP

...THEY'LL SILENCE HIM FOREVER.

JOHNNY JOESTAR
GYRO ZEPPELI

THE LEFT ARM
THE NEXT CORPSE PART
THE SPINE

THEY'RE ONLY USING HIM.

AND ONCE THEY DON'T NEED HIM ANY-MORE...

STAND USERS

STEEL BALL RUN
JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA

FLAP
バサッ

FLAP
ddd

FLAP
バッ

...

AND WHY CAN NO ONE FIND THE PIGEON RINGO SENT FROM THE ORCHARD?

...!!

HE... FORGOT TO TAKE IT WITH HIM THIS MORNING.

I KNOW THIS BUILDING IS GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

YES... I UNDER-STAND THAT.

ALL I ASK IS FOR YOU TO BRING MY HUSBAND HIS LUNCHBOX.

YOU KNOW MY HUSBAND, RIGHT? STEVEN STEEL?

PLEASE HURRY. IT'D BE AWFUL IF HE DIDN'T GET IT BEFORE LUNCHTIME.

...

...

?

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

CHOK

CHOK

KRAK

WSH

WSSSSSH

"H"

BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT RINGO SENT A BIRD. THE EVIDENCE LEFT BEHIND WAS CLEAR.

KA-CLAK ガチャ

KA-CLAK ガチャ

IT SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW.

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE WHAT THE MESSAGE COULD SAY.

WHRL

WSH

TWIST

TWIST

THAT'S STRANGE.

WHAT ...?

?!

SOMEONE LEFT THE DOOR OPEN.

KRK KRK

KREEAK

I'M SURE I CLOSED IT AFTER I CHECKED THE PIGEON COOP THIS MORNING. HAS SOMEONE ELSE BEEN UP HERE?

...

H"

TWIST

H"

TWIST

KREAK

ガ

KREAK

KREAK

KREAK

GLANCE

GLANCE

KREAK

WSH

TMP ドロロロ

TMP ドゴゴドゴゴ

TMP ドロロロ

SHF ズ

WELL?

HAS THE PIGEON COME?

I'M SORRY, SIR.

I DON'T SEE ANY PIGEON WITH A MESSAGE.

IT LOOKS LIKE IT STILL HASN'T ARRIVED.

...

EVEN IF THIS PIGEON ISN'T SUCH A BIRD, IT STILL SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED HERE THIS MORNING. AND THE MESSAGE MUST HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT FOR RINGO TO HAVE GONE TO THE TROUBLE OF SENDING IT BEFORE HIS DEATH.

I'VE HEARD THAT SOME BIRDS CAN FLY 1,200 MILES IN A SINGLE DAY.

SO TELL ME, WHAT KIND OF INFORMATION DO YOU THINK COULD'VE BEEN THAT IMPORTANT?

...THAT IT COULD'VE BEEN THE *LOCATION?*

IS IT POSSIBLE... HOWEVER UNLIKELY...

I DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST IDEA.

I'M SORRY, SIR.

THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT CORPSE PART CAN BE FOUND AT THE COORDINATES BELOW IN LATIN: TURBŌ

N. 39° 6' 24"
W. 94° 40' 6"

Ringo Ro

MR. PRESIDENT.

PARDON ME A MOMENT.

SOME-THING SEEMS WRONG WITH THE PIGEON COOP.

I'M SORRY, SIR. ALLOW ME TO REVISE MY PREVIOUS STATEMENT. I SAID THE BIRD HADN'T ARRIVED YET.

BUT THIS BIRD ...

...IS NEW. THERE'S ONE MORE BIRD THAN THIS MORNING.

IT SEEMS THAT RINGO SENT *TWO BIRDS...*

...ONE OF WHICH, IN HIS HASTE, HE DID NOT ATTACH A MESSAGE TO.

...IS THIS LOCK.

EVEN STRANGER ...

...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHY WOULD ONE BIRD HAVE ARRIVED WITHOUT THE OTHER?

IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE BROKE IT, AND THEN TRIED TO SCREW IT BACK IN.

BUT WHO?! FOR WHAT PURPOSE? IS THERE ANYONE HERE IN KANSAS CITY WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING?

...SOMEONE CAME UP TO THIS ROOFTOP AND BROKE INTO THE COOP?

IS THAT WHY THE STAIR DOOR WAS OPEN?

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, DARK-MORE?

DO YOU MEAN TO TELL ME...

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

GO GO GO GO GO

THEIR TRACKS ARE HERE BY THE ENTRANCE! TWO SETS OF WET BIRD TRACKS!

I'M CERTAIN THAT *BOTH BIRDS* ARRIVED NOW!

GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO GO

I'M SORRY, MR. PRESIDENT.

AND THIS PIGEON'S WINGS ARE STILL WET FROM THE RAIN!

...ONLY MOMENTS AGO!

THE PIGEONS ARRIVED...

GO GO GO GO GO GO

FLUTTRRR

FLUTTR

SNATCH

WSH

DID SOME-ONE STEAL THE PIGEON'S MESSAGE?! WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE TAKEN IT?!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE? I DON'T UNDER-STAND HOW THIS COULD HAPPEN.

KA-CHAK

IS THE THIEF HERE IN THE BUILDING RIGHT NOW ?!

...

...

GO GO GO GO GO GO

...

TMP

TMP

ゴゴゴゴ

GO

GO

GO

GO

!!!

AH...!

H''

WHM

TMP

ゴゴゴゴ

GO

GO

GO

SWSH

SHF

ドドドドド

GO GO GO GO GO

SWSH

ガバッ

RIGHT AWAY, MR. PRESI-DENT.

YES, SIR. SORRY, SIR.

FLAP

FLAP FLAP

FLAP

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?! HURRY UP AND CATCH IT, DARK-MORE!

THERE! IT'S THE MISSING MESSENGER PIGEON!

FLAP

FLAP

FLAP

!!

FLAT

WHMM

FLAP

FLAP

ZWMMM

PLAT

PLAT

PLAT

PLAT

WOBBL

WOBBL

WOBBL

PWUP
PWUP
PWUP
ヴィヴィ
?!
!!
…
ドドドド
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO

PWOP

PWUP

PWUP

PWOP

PWOP

PWUP

WSSSH

SWOOM

PLUP

PLUP

PLUP

VWSH

VWSH

TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
CHOMP

WHRL

HOLOOO

SOMEONE WAS HERE! THEY *STOLE* THE MESSAGE RIGHT OUT FROM UNDER US!

THE LID!

IT'S THE LID TO THE PIGEON'S MESSAGE CAPSULE!

WHO COULD HAVE DONE THIS JUST NOW?!

THEY MUST HAVE ALREADY KNOWN ABOUT RINGO'S PIGEON AND THE MESSAGE!

...

KREAK

KREAK

TUC

TUC

IT'S EMPTY ...!

THERE'S NO MESSAGE, MR. PRESIDENT.

I'M SORRY... BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE.

WSH

TP TP TP TP

HUFF HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

VWSH

KA-CHAK VWSH

THEY'RE ON THIS FLOOR! SEARCH EVERY-WHERE!

NOBODY CAME DOWN-STAIRS FROM HERE!

ドドド

DRIP
ポタ

DRIP
ポタ

HUFF
HUFF

I REPEAT! YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO SHOOT ON SIGHT!

I WANT ALL PERSONNEL ON HIGH ALERT! DO NOT LET A SINGLE SOUL LEAVE THIS BUILDING!

DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

WHAT'S GOING ON?

IS SOME-THING WRONG?

THAT'S QUITE A COMMOTION IN THE HALL.

STOMP STOMP STOMP

SKF

SOME-ONE RIGHT HERE IN THIS BUILD-ING!

BUT HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED? THIS WASN'T ZEPPELI AND JOESTAR. SOMEONE ELSE IS WORKING AGAINST ME FROM THE SHADOWS...

MUST CONTAIN THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT PART OF THE CORPSE!

I'M CERTAIN OF IT NOW. THE MESSAGE RINGO ROAD-AGAIN SENT TO ME...

DO DO DO DO

Steel Ball Run — To be continued...

Author's Comments

Before I knew it, I was in my mid-forties. If I live to be 70 or 80, that means I've already passed the halfway point. This is something of a tough subject to write about, but lately I've been thinking a lot about whether I'm the person I should be. Have I been following the right path? Whatever the answer to that may be, I want to be able to justify the life I've lived and accept the choices I've made. Similarly, Gyro and Johnny are in the race to find their own kinds of justice and acceptance, which is a central theme in this manga.

I wonder what the "right path" is.

I wonder what should be done if the pursuit of love and justice causes someone to stray down the wrong path.

When faced with a right path and a wrong path, how can we tell the two apart? Is it something we have to be taught? If our feelings of love lead us to hurt the people we care about most, how can we escape the path we've chosen? Gyro, Johnny, and everyone else involved in this race have found themselves in this position. Is there anything they can do other than pray?

JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE – Part 7

STEEL BALL RUN

VOLUME 4
BY HIROHIKO ARAKI

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JOJO'S BIZARRE ADVENTURE PART SEVEN: STEEL BALL RUN is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. This volume contains graphic violence and some mature themes.

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